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OHIO FOOTBALL

2012 INDEPENDENCE BOWL MEDIA GUIDE
OHIO VS. LOUISIANA-MONROE | 12.28.12 | INDEPENDENCE STADIUM

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100
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BOWL



OHIO BOBCATS FOOTBALL

MAC CHAMPIONS - 1953, 1960, 1963, 1967, 1968 | MAC EAST CHAMPIONS - 2006, 2009, 2011
FIVE BOWL GAMES IN THE LAST SEVEN YEARS - 2011 FAMOUS IDAHO POTATO BOWL CHAMPIONS

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2012 INDEPENDENCE BOWL

OHIO (8-4; 4-4) VS. LOUISIANA-MONROE (8-4; 6-2)

12.28.12 | 2 PM | SHREVEPORT, LA. | INDEPENDENCE STADIUM

BROADCAST INFORMATION

TV	ESPN
Play-By-Play	Dave Lamont
Color	Kelly Stouffer
Sideline	Cara Capuano
Radio	People's Bank Ohio IMG Sports Network
Play-By-Play	"Voice of the Bobcats" Russ Eisenstein
Color	Rob Cornelius

MEDIA RELATIONS CONTACT

Football Contact	Tom Symonds
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Brett Compton	
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OHIO PLEASE

When referring to the Bobcats, please use Ohio. Ohio University is acceptable when using other institutions' full names. Please do not use Ohio U. or OU. Thank you.

BOBCAT FOOTBALL HISTORY

First Season	1894
All-Time Record	524-529-48 (.498)
First Year in MAC	1947
All-Time MAC Record	218-246-11 (.470)
MAC Championships	5 (1953, 1960, 1963, 1967, 1968)
MAC Division Championships	3 ('06, '09, '11)
Bowl Appearances:	7
Sun Bowl, 1962 (West Texas State 15, Ohio 14)	
Tangerine Bowl, 1968 (Richmond 49, Ohio 42)	
GMAC Bowl, 2007 (Southern Miss 28, Ohio 7)	
Little Caesars Pizza Bowl, 2009 (Marshall 21, Ohio 17)	
R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl, 2010 (Troy 48, Ohio 21)	
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl, 2011 (Ohio 24, Utah State 23)	
Independence Bowl, 2012 (Ohio vs. Louisiana-Monroe)	

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FIRST AND 10

-Ohio faces off against Louisiana-Monroe in the 2012 Independence Bowl on Dec. 28 at 2 p.m. (EST). The game can be seen on ESPN.

-The Bobcats will make their fourth-consecutive bowl appearance and their fifth in the last seven years.

-Ohio is one of just 28 schools in the country to go to four straight bowl games.

-The Bobcats will make their 50th appearance on the ESPN Family of Networks since 2005.

-The Bobcats have won 14 of their last 19 games dating back to last season.

-Ohio ranks ninth in the NCAA in turnover margin.

-Quarterback Tyler Tettleton became Ohio University's all-time leader in career completions at Ball State on Nov. 14. On Nov. 7 against Bowling Green, he became the program's all-time leading passer.

-Tettleton currently holds six of the school's career passing records.

-Running back Beau Blankenship, who set the program's single season rushing record, has rushed for 1,500 yards to become the eighth individual in school history to surpass 1,000 yards rushing.

-Ohio became bowl eligible for the sixth time in the last eight years following its 38-31 win over Buffalo on Oct. 6 and was the first team in the country to become bowl eligible.

-The Bobcats won seven straight games to open the season. Ohio's 7-0 start was its best start to a season since 1968.

-Ohio is one of four teams in the Mid-American

Conference that have been ranked in the AP Top 25 this season.

-Head coach Frank Solich coached in his 100th game at Ohio on Nov. 7 against Bowling Green.

A WIN OVER LOUISIANA-MONROE WOULD...

-Mark the Bobcats' second bowl win in program history.

-Mark back-to-back bowl wins for Ohio. Only four current league members have won bowl games in consecutive years.

-Hand Ohio its seventh nine-win season in school history and fourth under the direction of head coach Frank Solich.

-Give the Bobcats' their 15th win in their last 20 games dating back to last season.

-Mark the Bobcats' first win over a Sun Belt opponent since 2009 when it defeated North Texas.

-Give head coach Frank Solich his 59th career win at Ohio, which would tie him with former Miami head coach Randy Walker for 12th on the MAC all-time career wins list.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

-Junior running back Beau Blankenship needs just 80 yards on the ground to crack into the Top 15 on the all-time single season MAC rushing list.

-Blankenship's eight 100-yard rushing games this year are tied for the most in school history for a single season. If he surpasses 100 yards rushing he will become the all-time single season leader for most 100-yard games.

-Blankenship's 11 rushing touchdowns are ranked in the all-time Top 10 for a single season. He is currently two

2012 OHIO FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/RESULTS	OF NOTE...
Sept. 1	at Penn State (ESPN)	W, 24-14	Outscored PSU 21-0 in the second half to secure win
Sept. 8	NEW MEXICO STATE (ESPN3)	W, 51-24	Outgained NMSU 584-206: Weller breaks all-time scoring record
Sept. 15	at Marshall	W, 27-24	'Cats overcome 24-17 fourth quarter deficit to claim Bell Trophy
Sept. 22	NORFOLK STATE (ESPN3)	W, 44-10	Ohio opened up a 24-0 lead in the first quarter. Vick throws 4 TDs
Sept. 29	at Massachusetts* (ESPN3)	W, 37-34	'Cats rally in fourth quarter: Blankenship rushes for 269 yards
Oct. 6	BUFFALO* (ESPN Plus/ESPN3)	W, 38-31	Ohio forced four UB fumbles and recovered three
Oct. 13	AKRON* (ESPN3)	W, 34-28	Tettleton became the all-time leader for career TD passes
Oct. 27	at Miami* (STO/ESPN3)	L, 23-20	Miami defeats Ohio for the first time since 2005
Nov. 1	EASTERN MICHIGAN* (ESPNU)	W, 45-14	Foster totals a career-high 164 yards receiving to pace 'Cats
Nov. 7	BOWLING GREEN* (ESPN2)	L, 26-14	Ohio dropped its first game at Peden Stadium since Oct. 15, 2011
Nov. 14	at Ball State* (ESPN2/ESPNU)	L, 52-27	'Cats were outscored 21-3 in the fourth quarter
Nov. 23	at Kent State* (ESPNU/ESPN3)	L, 28-6	Blankenship became Ohio's all-time single season rushing leader
Dec. 28	vs. Louisiana-Monroe (ESPN)	2 p.m. (EST)	First-ever meeting between the two schools

* - MAC Game | Home Games in CAPS



MEDIA INFORMATION

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Frank Solich (F)
Alma Mater	Nebraska, 1966
Record at Ohio	58-44, .588 (Eighth Year)
MAC Record	40-24, .661 (Eighth Year)
Career Record	116-63, .660 (14th Year)

Off. Coordinator/RBs **Tim Albin (PB)**
Eighth Year; NW Oklahoma State, 1989

Def. Coordinator/Safeties **Jimmy Burrow (PB)**
Eighth Year; Nebraska, 1976

Co-Off. Coord./QBs **Gerry Gdowski (PB)**
Eighth Year; Nebraska, 1990

Linebackers **Ron Collins (PB)**
Second Year; Washington State, 1987

Wide Receivers **Dwayne Dixon (F)**
Sixth Year; Florida, 1985

Special Teams Coord./Rec. Coord./TEs **Brian Haines (F)**
Fifth Year; Marietta, 2004

Defensive Line **Jesse Williams (F)**
First Year; Sonoma State, 1988

Defensive Backs **Fred Reed (F)**
Fourth Year; Mesa State, 1993

Offensive Line **Keven Lightner (F)**
Eighth Year; Nebraska, 1996

Assistant AD for Football Ops **Jason Grooms (F)**
Eighth Year; Ohio, 2001

Graduate Assistants

Michael George - Offense (PB)
Andrew Mooney - Offense (F)
Drew Papuchis - Defense (F)
LeDominique Williams - Defense (PB)

F - Coaches from the field on Gameday
PB - Coaches from the press box

OHIO IMG SPORTS NETWORK

AFFILIATES

WXTQ (105.5 FM) Athens
WOUC (89.1 FM), Cambridge
WOUH (91.9 FM), Chillicothe
WYTS (1230 AM), Columbus
WRAC (103.1 FM) Georgetown
WOUL (89.1 FM) Ironton
WKNA (98.3 FM) Logan
WLGN (1510 AM) Logan
WMOA (1490 AM) Marietta
WJAW (100.9 FM) McConnelsville
WMPO (1390 AM/97.1 FM) Middleport
WHNK (1450 AM) Parkersburg, W.Va.
WJAW (630 AM) St. Mary's, W.Va.
WOUZ (90.1 FM) Zanesville

OHIO FOOTBALL MEDIA RELATIONS CONTACTS

Football Contact.....Tom Symonds
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INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES

1. Phone Interviews – For out-of-town media that wish to request a phone interview with Coach Solich, please contact the Ohio Media Relations Office. Interviews will be scheduled based on Coach Solich's availability.
2. Post-Game Press Conference – Coach Solich will be available to members of the media following each game, both at home and on the road. Check with the Ohio Media Relations Office for specific details.

ASSISTANT COACHES

Coaches should not be contacted at their residences or cell phones. All interview requests must go through the media relations office.

STUDENT-ATHLETES

Interviews with requested players will take place following practice on Wednesday and Thursday. Please contact the Ohio Media Relations Office to confirm practice times and request players. Please be advised that during weeks when games are not played on Saturday, interview days may change based on the team's schedule. Players should not be contacted for interviews at their residences, on their cell phones, via email, Facebook, Twitter and all other social networking entities. All interview requests must go through the media relations office. Please keep in mind there may be class conflicts on certain days. Requested players will also be available following each game. The Ohio locker room is closed to the media at all times. Phone interviews with out-of-town media can also be arranged.

COVERING PRACTICE

Practice is open to members of the media. However, still photographers and videographers will be allowed to shoot only during pre-practice individual drills, which usually last approximately 10 minutes at the beginning of practice.

Media members covering practices or scrimmages will not be permitted to report any scouting information (formations, personnel groupings, etc.) without first speaking with a member of the Ohio coaching staff or the media relations office. Failure to adhere to this guideline could result in the closing of all practices and scrimmages to the media.

E-MAIL SERVICE

Football releases and information can be obtained electronically by e-mailing Tom Symonds at symondst@ohio.edu. Please include all contact information for your media outlet. Please note this service is for media only.

OHIOBOBCATS.COM

The official web site of Ohio Athletics is OhioBobcats.com. It is one of the many means of information dissemination utilized by the athletics department. In addition to releases, specific team information (rosters, schedules, statistics, bios, etc.) for all 16 varsity sports is available. Statistics, a game recap, notes and quotes will be available on-line as soon as possible following each game.

MAC MEDIA RELATIONS CONTACTS

Akron: Gregg Bach - gbach@uakron.edu
Ball State: Joe Hernandez - jhernand@bsu.edu
Bowling Green: Dave Meyer - meyerd@bgsu.edu
Buffalo: Jon Fuller - jfuller3@buffalo.edu
Central Michigan: Jason Kaufman - Jason.Kaufman@cmich.edu
Eastern Michigan: Greg Steiner - greg.steiner@emich.edu
Kent State: Aaron Chimenti - achiment@kent.edu
Massachusetts: John Sinnett - jsinnett@admin.umass.edu

Miami: Mike Pearson - pearsomg@muohio.edu
Northern Illinois: Donna Turner - donnaturner@niu.edu
Ohio: Tom Symonds - symondst@ohio.edu
Toledo: Paul Helgren - paul.helgren@utoledo.edu
Western Michigan: Mat Kanan - mat.kanan@wmich.edu

OHIO FOOTBALL MEDIA AVAILABILITY - BOWL WEEK

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Travel to Shreveport	Practice TBA	Practice TBA	No Practice	Gameday Coach Solich and Players are available in the postgame press conference	No Practice	No Practice



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

2012 MAC STANDINGS

EAST STANDINGS

	Conf.	Overall
Kent State	8-0 1.000	11-2 .846
Bowling Green	6-2 .750	8-4 .667
Ohio	4-4 .500	8-4 .667
Miami	3-5 .375	4-8 .333
Buffalo	3-5 .375	4-8 .333
Massachusetts	1-7 .125	1-11 .083
Akron	0-8 .000	1-11 .083

WEST STANDINGS

	Conf.	Overall
Northern Illinois	8-0 1.000	12-1 .923
Ball State	6-2 .750	9-3 .750
Toledo	6-2 .750	9-3 .750
Central Michigan	4-4 .500	6-6 .500
Western Michigan	2-6 .250	4-8 .333
Eastern Michigan	1-7 .125	2-10 .167

THE MAC'S 2012 BOWL LINEUP

Famous Idaho Potato Bowl - Dec. 15

Toledo vs. Utah State (ESPN) 4:30 p.m.

Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl - Dec. 21

Ball State vs. Central Florida (ESPN) 7:30 p.m.

Little Caesars Pizza Bowl - Dec. 26

Central Michigan vs. Western Kentucky (ESPN) 7:30 p.m.

Military Bowl Presented by Northrop Grumman - Dec. 27

Bowling Green vs. San Jose State (ESPN) 3 p.m.

Advocate V100 Independence Bowl - Dec. 28

Ohio vs. Louisiana-Monroe (ESPN) 2 p.m.

Discover Orange Bowl - Jan. 1

Northern Illinois vs. Florida State (ESPN) 8:20 p.m.

GoDaddy.com Bowl - Jan. 6

Kent State vs. Arkansas State (ESPN) 9 p.m.

2012 PRESEASON POLL

MAC EAST DIVISION

1. Ohio (17), 119

2. Bowling Green, 91
3. Miami, 84
4. Kent State, 76
5. Buffalo, 52
6. Akron, 31
7. UMass, 23

MAC West Division

1. Toledo (7), 87
2. Northern Illinois (5), 83
3. Western Michigan (4), 79
4. Ball State, 42
5. Eastern Michigan, 34
6. Central Michigan (1), 32

2012 Marathon MAC Championship Game

Winner: Ohio 5; Toledo 3; Northern Illinois 1; Western Michigan 1 and Central Michigan 1.

Note: Several voters did not select a winner for the MAC Championship.

THE COACHES

Frank Solich (Eighth Season, 14th Overall)	Head Coach	Todd Berry (Third Season, 11th Overall)
Ohio	School	Louisiana-Monroe
Nebraska, 1966	Alma Mater	Tulsa, 1983
58-43	Record at School	17-19
116-63	Career Record	46-79

rushing touchdowns shy of cracking into the all-time Top 5 for a single season.

-Redshirt senior offensive lineman Eric Herman will look to make his 51st-consecutive start against ULM.

-Quarterback Tyler Tettleton is just four touchdown passes shy of 20 for the season. No Ohio signal-caller has ever thrown for 20-or-more touchdown passes in back-to-back seasons.

-Tettleton is also just 57 yards shy of totaling 6,000 yards for his career.

-Wide receiver Donte Foster is just two touchdown receptions shy of cracking into the all-time top three for career touchdown receptions. He is currently fifth all-time with 13 career receiving touchdowns.

-Foster is also just four catches shy of cracking into the all-time single season Top 10 for receptions.

-Linebacker Keith Moore is just 11 tackles shy tallying 100 tackles for the season.

OHIO vs. TEAMS FROM THE SUN BELT

Ohio's matchup with Louisiana-Monroe is the first all-time meeting with the Warhawks, however the Bobcats are no stranger to teams from the Sun Belt Conference. Ohio has played six games against teams from the Sun Belt and has an overall record of 4-2. Ohio's last meeting against a Sun Belt team came against Troy in the 2010 R&L Carriers New Orleans Bowl.

SCOUTING LOUISIANA-MONROE

Louisiana-Monroe comes into the Independence Bowl, having split its final four games of the season to finish the year 8-4. ULM will be making its first bowl appearance since moving up to the FBS ranks beginning with the 1994 campaign. ULM earned a total of 10 postseason honors from the Sun Belt Conference following a strong 2012 campaign. Head coach Todd Berry was named the

league's coach of the year, while junior quarterback Kolton Browning was tabbed the conference's offensive player of the year. Browning led an offense that set school record with 59 touchdowns this season. Defensively, ULM lead the Sun Belt in stopping the run, limiting opponents to just 135.8 yards per game.

2012 SEASON BY THE NUMBERS

25,893 - The Bobcats played in front of a school record crowd of 25,893 fans at Peden Stadium in its home-opener.

21,844 - Ohio averaged a school record 21,844 fans at Peden Stadium this past fall.

2,513 - Quarterback Tyler Tettleton surpassed 2,500 yards through the air for the second-consecutive season.

1968 - The Bobcats 7-0 start was their best start to a season since the 1968 campaign.

1,500 - Running back Beau Blankenship rushed for a program record 1,500 yards on the ground during the regular season.

400 - Senior place kicker Matt Weller finished the regular season with 400 career points, which ranks No. 1 all-time in school history.

367 - The Bobcats scored 367 points in 2012, which is the third-highest mark in school history.

100 - Head coach Frank Solich coached in his 100th career game at Ohio earlier this season against Bowling Green.

50 - Senior offensive lineman Eric Herman made his 50th consecutive start in the Bobcats regular season finale at Kent State.

24 - Ohio scored 24 points in its season-opening win at Penn State.

23 - The Bobcats were ranked as high as No. 23 in the Associated Press Poll.

11 - Ohio played on the ESPN Family of Networks 11 times during the 2012 season.

8 - Blankenship has rushed for 100 yards-or-more in

OHIO VS. LOUISIANA-MONROE | TALE OF THE TAPE

OHIO (MAC RANK)	OFFENSE	ULM (SUN BELT RANK)
30.5 (5th)	POINTS/GAME	35.5 (2nd)
435.5 (5th)	TOTAL YARDS/GAME	442.7 (4th)
202.0 (4th)	RUSH YARDS/GAME	146.0 (7th)
233.5 (8th)	PASS YARDS/GAME	296.7 (2nd)
	DEFENSE	
25.7 (4th)	POINTS/GAME	27.8 (T-4th)
395.0 (4th)	TOTAL YARDS/GAME	407.3 (6th)
165.2 (6th)	RUSH YARDS/GAME	135.8 (1st)
229.8 (6th)	PASS YARDS/GAME	271.5 (9th)



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

NON-OFFENSIVE TDS

The Bobcats have scored 39 non-offensive touchdowns since the start of the 2004 season.

OPPONENT	PLAYER
Buffalo (10/6/12)	Daz' Patterson 100-yard KO return
New Mexico State (9/8/12)	Nathan Carpenter 22-yard INT return
Gardner-Webb (9/10/11)	Jelani Woseley 26-yard Int.
New Mexico State (9/3/11)	Travis Carrie 65-yard PR
Bowling Green (10/9/10)	Donovan Fletcher 55-yard INT
Wofford (9/4/10)	Julian Posey 38-yard FR
Marshall (12/26/09)	Shannon Ballard 75-yard FR
Northern Ill. (11/21/09)	LaVon Brazill 91-yard PR
Northern Ill. (11/21/09)	Julian Posey 41-yard Int.
Kent State (10/24/09)	LaVon Brazill 87-yard PR
Akron (10/10/09)	Melvin Payne 0-yard blocked PR
Bowling Green (10/3/09)	LaVon Brazill 72-yard PR
Tennessee (9/26/09)	Chris Garrett 95-yard KR
Cal Poly (9/19/09)	Errik Ejike 32-yard Int.
North Texas (9/12/09)	Kenny Jackson 69-yard Int.
Akron (11/22/08)	Chris Garrett 97-yd. KR
Akron (11/22/08)	LaVon Brazill 66-yd. PR
VMI (9/27/08)	L.J. Flintall 97-yd. KR
VMI (9/27/08)	Michael Brown 9-yd. FR
Ohio State (9/6/08)	Curtis Meyers 0-yd Fum. Rec.
Wyoming (8/30/08)	Donte Harden 100-yd. KR
Miami (11/24/07)	Joshua Abrams 93-yd. KR
Bowling Green (10/27/07)	Kris Luchsinger 58-yd. INT
Wyoming (9/22/07)	Chris Garrett 94-yd. KR
Wyoming (9/22/07)	Jameson Hartke 30-yd. INT
Akron (11/16/06)	Matt Muncy 0-yd. FR
W. Michigan (10/7/06)	Chris Garrett 88-yd. PR
UT-Martin (9/2/06)	T. J Wright 35-yd. FR
Ball State (10/22/05)	Scott Mayle 88-yd. KR
Bowling Green (10/8/05)	Jordan Meyers 15-yd. blocked PR
Pittsburgh (9/9/05)	Dion Byrum 85-yd. INT
Pittsburgh (9/9/05)	Dion Byrum 38-yd. INT
Northwestern (9/3/05)	Dion Byrum 62-yd. FR
Akron (11/13/04)	Stafford Owens 81-yd. PR
Bowling Green (10/23/04)	Stafford Owens 44-yd. blocked PR
Buffalo (9/25/04)	Matt Muncy 98-yd. FR
Buffalo (9/25/04)	Tyler Russ 33-yd. INT
VMI (9/4/04)	Tyler Russ 19-yd. FR
VMI (9/4/04)	T.J. Wright 41-yd. IR

eight games this season.

7 - Ohio opened the year with seven straight wins to start the year.

6 - Ohio placed six players on the 2012 MAC All-Conference Team.

3 - Tettleton threw just three interceptions all season.

1 - The Bobcats became the first Division I-A team in the country to become bowl-eligible.

SIX BOBCATS EARN MAC ALL-CONFERENCE HONORS

Seniors Matt Weller, Eric Herman, Skyler Allen and junior Beau Blankenship earned All-MAC Second Team honors, while high school teammates and senior defensive players Alphonso Lewis and Neal Huynh were named to the All-MAC Third Team. Weller's Second Team honor marked the third time in his career he was selected All-MAC.

TETTLETON 2K PLUS

Ohio signal-caller Tyler Tettleton became the first quarterback in school history to throw for 2,500-yards or more in back-to-back seasons. His 2,513 passing yards this season rank second all-time for a single season.

AMONG THE NATION'S BEST

Ohio junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton has established himself as one of the nation's best signal-callers. Tettleton is one of only three quarterbacks across the country that have thrown 15-or-more touchdowns and three-or-fewer interceptions.

Player	Yds	TDs	Int
A.J. McCarron, Alabama	2669	26	3
Tino Sunseri, Pittsburgh	3103	19	2
Tyler Tettleton, Ohio	2513	16	3

THE BEST IN THE MAC

Ohio's 54 wins since 2006 are the second most victories by any school in the Mid-American Conference during that period second only to Northern Illinois.

1. Northern Illinois - 56
2. Ohio - 54
3. Central Michigan - 50

BEAU KNOWS

Junior running back Beau Blankenship has rushed for over 100 yards in eight of 12 games this season. He also rushed for 86 yards against Buffalo and 97 yards vs. Bowling Green. Blankenship's 269 yards at Massachusetts served as a game and career-high. In 2012, Blankenship finished the regular season ranked No. 10th in the NCAA and third in the MAC in rushing, averaging 125.0 yards per game. At the end of the season, Blankenship was named All-MAC Second Team and Phil Steele All-MAC First Team. Earlier in the year, Blankenship was named to the Phil Steele, CBS Sports and SI.com Midseason All-America Teams.

A RECORD PACE

In 2012, junior Beau Blankenship surpassed former

Bobcat Calvin McRae's single season record rushing mark of 1,434 yards. This past season Blankenship rumbled for 1,500 yards - listed below is a game-by-game break down of his record breaking season.

	McRae in 2007	Blankenship in 2012
Game 1	142 yards	109 yards
Game 2	84 yards	168 yards
Game 3	55 yards	102 yards
Game 4	56 yards	109 yards
Game 5	74 yards	269 yards
Game 6	96 yards	86 yards
Game 7	170 yards	108 yards
Game 8	182 yards	74 yards
Game 9	200 yards	72 yards
Game 10	151 yards	97 yards
Game 11	109 yards	161 yards
Game 12	112 yards	145 yards
	1434 yards	1500 yards

DONTÉ'S INFERNO

Junior wide receiver Donte Foster posted a career night earlier this season against Eastern Michigan. Listed below are the highlights of his career-high performance.

-Surpassed his previous career-high for receiving yards in the first half against Eastern Michigan as he tallied 76 yards receiving.

-Finished the game with 164 receiving yards.

-Junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton's 79-yard touchdown pass to Foster was the Bobcats' longest play from scrimmage of the year.

-His 79-yard touchdown reception was the sixth longest receiving play in school history.

WELLER FINISHES STRONG

Senior kicker Matt Weller struggled through the Bobcats' first four games of the season as he connected on just 9-of-15 field goals. Since Sept. 29, Weller has drilled 13-of-15 field goals.

MOORE NOMINATED FOR THE BURLSWORTH TROPHY

Junior linebacker Keith Moore has been nominated for the 2012 Burlsworth Trophy. The 50 nominees for the award were announced Nov. 13. Moore (Grove City, Ohio), who joined the team prior to the 2010 season as a walk on, leads the team in tackles with 86. The Trophy is given to the most outstanding football player in America who began his career as a walk-on. A walk-on is defined as a player who began his first season of participation with a D1 (FBS) football program without financial aid of any kind from his university's athletic department.

SECOND HALF WARRIORS

In 12 games this season, Ohio has proven to be a very strong second half team, outscoring its opponents 163-133 in the final 30 minutes. In the last five contests, Ohio has limited its foes to just 48 points (9.6 avg.) total during the second half.



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

TRACKING THE OPPONENTS

at PENN STATE (Sept . 1)

2012 Record: 8-4
Next Opponent: Season Complete
Last Week's Result: W, 24-21 vs. Wisconsin

NEW MEXICO STATE (Sept . 8)

2012 Record: 1-11
Next Opponent: Season Complete
Last Week's Result: L, 66-28 at Texas State

at MARSHALL (Sept . 15)

2012 Record: 5-7
Next Opponent: Season Complete
Last Result: L, 65-59 (20T) at East Carolina

NORFOLK STATE (Sept . 22)

2012 Record: 4-7
Next Opponent: Season Complete
Last Result: W, 30-0 vs. Morgan State

at MASSACHUSETTS (Sept. 29)

2012 Record: 1-11
Next Opponent: Season Complete
Last Result: L, 42-21 vs. Central Michigan

BUFFALO (Oct . 6)

2012 Record: 4-8
Next Opponent: Season Complete
Last Result: L, 21-7 at Bowling Green

AKRON (Oct . 13)

2012 Record: 1-11
Next Opponent: Season Complete
Last Result: L, 35-23 at Toledo

at MIAMI (Oct . 27)

2012 Record: 4-8
Next Opponent: Season Complete
Last Result: L, 31-24 vs. Ball State

EASTERN MICHIGAN (Nov . 1)

2012 Record: 2-10
Next Opponent: Season Complete
Last Result: L, 49-7 vs. Northern Illinois

BOWLING GREEN (Nov . 7)

2012 Record: 8-4
Next Opponent: San Jose State (Military Bowl)
Last Result: L, 21-7 vs. Buffalo

at BALL STATE (Nov . 14)

2012 Record: 9-3
Next Opponent: UCF (Beef'O' Brady's Bowl)
Last Result: W, 31-24 at Miami

at KENT STATE (Nov . 23)

2012 Record: 11-2
Next Opponent: Arkansas State (Independence Bowl)
Last Result: L, 44-37 (20T) vs. Northern Illinois

NATIONAL ATTENTION

The Ohio University football team was ranked in the top 25 of the BCS poll (No. 24), Associated Press Poll and USA Today Coaches' Poll (No. 23) earlier this season. Ohio has never been ranked in all three polls at the same time. The Bobcats had also never been ranked in the BCS Standings or the USA Today Coaches Poll.

LOOKING BACK AT BLANKENSHIP'S CAREER DAY AT UMASS

-Junior running back Beau Blankenship tied former Bobcat running back Bill Gary's school record of 43 carries.
-Blankenship rushed for 148 yards in the first half. He would go on to finish the game with 269 yards, which is the third highest single game total in school history.
-Blankenship's 43 carries and 269 rushing yards were both career-highs.
-Blankenship's 269 yards rushing marked just the sixth time in school history in which an Ohio running back has surpassed 250 yards rushing.

GETTING DEFENSIVE

-The Ohio defense held Eastern Michigan scoreless in the second half, allowing just 135 yards after halftime.
-Ohio was outgained 309-216 in the first half, but the defense responded in the second half, holding Miami to just 115 yards of total offense in the second half alone.
-The Bobcats tied a season-high with three fumble recoveries against Buffalo.
-Junior Keith Moore tallied a season-best 16 tackles (solo) in the Bobcats' win over Buffalo.
-Ohio forced Norfolk State into five turnovers. The five turnovers forced by the Bobcats were a season-high.
-The Bobcats have allowed the fewest points and the fewest yards in the Mid-American Conference in 2012.
-Ohio's defensive unit has limited its opponents to less than 100 yards rushing in three of its four games this season.
-Ohio forced Marshall into three turnovers on Sept 15.
-The Bobcats notched six sacks on Sept. 8 against New Mexico State.
-Ohio notched its 38th non-offensive touchdown since 2004 after Nathan Carpenter recorded a pick six late in the third quarter against New Mexico State.
-Ohio held Penn State to just 173 yards of total offense over the final three quarters in its opener against the Nittany Lions.

STARTING STRONG

Derrius Vick is one of four quarterbacks in the Mid-American Conference that made their first-ever collegiate start this season. Vick fared the best by far between the four individuals, who made their first start this season.

Quarterbacks	Comp-Att-Int	Yards	TDs
Derrius Vick, Ohio	14-20-0	199	4
Dalton Williams, Akron	30-50-1	245	2

Mike Wegzyn, UMass	9-22-1	56	0
Jordan Lynch, NIU	6-16-0	54	0

PATTERSON DASHES INTO THE RECORD BOOKS

-Freshman running back Daz' Patterson gave the Bobcats their first points of the afternoon against Buffalo as he returned a kickoff 100 yards.
-Patterson's 100-yard kick return for touchdown tied former Bobcat Donte' Harden's record which he set back in 2008 at Wyoming.
-Patterson's kick return for a touchdown was the first since Chris Garrett did so in 2009 at Tennessee.
-Patterson's 100-yard kick return for a touchdown was also the Bobcats' 39th non-offensive touchdown since the start of the 2004 season.

ALL GOOD THINGS MUST COME TO AN END

Quarterback Tyler Tettleton threw his first interception of the season vs. Buffalo, which marked the first time in 161 attempts dating back to last season in which he has thrown an interception.

THE NATION'S BEST

Ohio grabbed the nation's attention on the season's first Saturday with a second-half rally to beat Penn State on the road, 24-14, earning Tostitos Fiesta Bowl National Team of the Week honors for games of the weekend of Sept. 1.

MR CLUTCH

Quarterback Tyler Tettleton is quickly developing into one of the nation's top quarterbacks in the clutch. Leading by just three points midway through the fourth quarter at Penn State, Tettleton led a 14 play, 93-yard drive, which was capped by a five yard touchdown pass to Donte Foster. Tettleton also led game-winning drives against Bowling Green and Utah State, which clinched the MAC East and the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl titles, respectively.

Since taking over as the starter in 2011, Tettleton has thrown for **1,017 yards, seven touchdown passes** and just two interceptions in the fourth quarter.

A PAIR OF FORMER WALK-ONS MAKE THEIR MARK

Ohio defensive end Corey Hasting and middle linebacker Keith Moore were both walk-on players, but now the two have earned scholarships and are currently key starters in the Bobcat defensive unit. In 12 games this season, the Bobcat duo have combined for 140 tackles and 10.5 tackles for loss.

SPREADING THE WEALTH

Ohio quarterback Tyler Tettleton has hit 14 different targets this season. Junior Donte Foster leads the team with 56 receptions.



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

SCORING DRIVES

OPPONENT	PLAYS	YARDS	TOP	SCORE
Penn State	4	8	1:26	FG
Penn State	12	82	4:20	TD
Penn State	8	70	2:49	TD
Penn State	14	93	6:50	TD
New Mexico State	7	68	2:23	TD
New Mexico State	7	49	1:35	TD
New Mexico State	5	76	2:00	TD
New Mexico State	5	55	1:10	FG
New Mexico State	5	32	2:25	TD
New Mexico State	7	80	2:51	TD
New Mexico State	13	67	5:22	FG
New Mexico State	9	72	4:01	FG
Marshall	16	68	5:52	TD
Marshall	11	75	3:09	FG
Marshall	13	96	3:51	TD
Marshall	12	80	3:30	TD
Marshall	7	10	3:09	FG
Norfolk State	5	22	2:17	TD
Norfolk State	3	30	1:23	TD
Norfolk State	6	10	2:55	FG
Norfolk State	4	71	1:22	TD
Norfolk State	5	49	2:28	TD
Norfolk State	6	42	2:18	FG
Norfolk State	1	13	0:07	TD
Norfolk State	4	3	1:09	FG
Massachusetts	16	73	5:28	FG
Massachusetts	13	70	5:07	FG
Massachusetts	8	79	3:18	TD
Massachusetts	7	75	1:57	TD
Massachusetts	11	78	4:27	TD
Massachusetts	7	36	2:17	FG
Massachusetts	4	70	1:38	TD
Buffalo	1	14	0:05	TD
Buffalo	1	15	0:07	TD
Buffalo	6	32	2:17	FG
Buffalo	11	65	3:59	TD
Buffalo	2	55	0:34	TD
Akron	8	65	3:03	TD
Akron	4	53	1:48	TD
Akron	11	27	3:33	FG
Akron	5	34	0:43	FG
Akron	11	96	4:44	TD
Akron	9	56	2:42	TD
Miami	6	75	2:11	TD
Miami	9	71	2:15	TD
Miami	7	41	2:57	FG
Miami	9	41	4:09	FG
Eastern Michigan	6	78	2:30	TD
Eastern Michigan	*18	64	17:17	FG
Eastern Michigan	5	61	2:17	TD
Eastern Michigan	7	65	0:44	TD
Eastern Michigan	3	^99	1:11	TD
Eastern Michigan	5	44	2:10	TD
Eastern Michigan	6	67	2:10	TD
Bowling Green	11	72	5:42	TD
Bowling Green	14	95	5:24	TD
Ball State	12	52	5:58	FG
Ball State	7	62	3:10	TD
Ball State	3	70	1:13	TD
Ball State	5	76	2:10	TD
Ball State	11	54	4:32	FG
Kent State	9	59	3:14	FG
Kent State	10	47	1:30	FG

* - Most Plays | ^ - Most Yards | ! - Most TOP

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Ohio's matchup with Louisiana-Monroe will mark its 50th appearance on the ESPN Family of Networks since 2005. Here is a look at how the Bobcats have fared in televised games since the start of the 2005 season.

Network	W	L	Pct.
Big Ten Network	0	2	.000
Comcast Sports Net Chicago	1	0	1.000
ESPN	4	4	.429
ESPN2	4	7	.400
ESPNU	7	8	.467
ESPN3 (360)	8	7	.571
FSN OHIO	1	1	.500
STO	1	1	.500
GTN	3	2	.600
MAC TV	4	0	1.000
MSG	0	1	.000
The Mountain	0	1	.000
WSAZ	0	1	.000
Totals	33	35	.492

WELLER EARNS 12TH CAREER MAC SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE WEEK AWARD

Senior place kicker Matt Weller was named MAC East Special Teams Player of the Week for the 12th time in his career on Nov. 26 following his performance in the Bobcats' season finale at Kent State. Weller drilled a pair of field goals and had two touchbacks.

9/3 - Tyler Tettleton - Offensive

9/10 - Matt Weller - Special Teams

9/17 - Tyler Tettleton - Offensive

9/17 - Matt Weller - Special Teams

10/8 - Daz' Patterson - Special Teams

11/26 - Matt Weller - Special Teams

A TURNAROUND FOR THE AGES

In the last 35 years prior to this season, Ohio University football has been to just four bowl games, however four of those bowl appearances have come during head coach Frank Solich's first seven years in Athens.

	1977-2004	2005-11
Seasons	28	7
Coaches	7	1
Wins Per Year	3.4	7.1
Bowl Appearances	0	4

PLENTY OF EXPERIENCE UP FRONT

The Ohio offensive line is one of the most experienced units in all of Division 1 - FBS. The Bobcats boast an interior core that has made 156 career starts.

OHIO OFFENSIVE LINE STARTS

Eric Herman (50)

Skyler Allen (38)

Jon Lechner (25)

Vince Carlotta (16)

Ryan McGrath (15)

John Prior (12)

J.D. Bales, Sam Johnson and Mark Smith have all suited up for the Bobcats and seen game action, which adds to the depth this position boasts.

OHIO FOOTBALL ANNOUNCES 2012 CAPTAINS

Cornerback Travis Carrie, safety Gerald Moore, quarterback Tyler Tettleton and tight end Jordan Thompson have been named captains for the 2012 Ohio University football team. The four Bobcats were selected in a vote conducted by their teammates. All four players have been named to the Phil Steele Preseason All-MAC Team.

OHIO SCHEDULES KANSAS AND CINCINNATI

The Ohio University football team announced on April 19 the addition of a home-and-home series with Kansas and Cincinnati. The Bobcats will faceoff against the Jayhawks in 2016 and 2017. In 2018 and 2020, Ohio will take on the Bearcats. Ohio will travel to face Kansas on Sept. 10, 2016. The Jayhawks will then make their first-ever trip to Athens on Sept. 16, 2017 to take on the Bobcats inside Peden Stadium. On Sept. 22, 2018, Ohio will head to Cincinnati to face the Bearcats. Cincinnati will then travel to Ohio on Sept. 12, 2020 for its first visit to Peden Stadium since Oct. 10, 1981.

FUTURE NON-CONFERENCE SCHEDULES 2013

8/31 - at Louisville

9/7 - North Texas

9/14 - Marshall

9/21 - Austin Peay

2014

9/6 - at Kentucky

9/13 - at Marshall

9/20 - Idaho

9/27 - Eastern Illinois

2015

9/5 - at Idaho

9/12 - Marshall

9/19 - Southeastern Louisiana

9/26 - at Minnesota

OHIO IN ONE-POINT GAMES

DATE	SCORE	RESULT	OPPONENT	DATE	SCORE	RESULT	OPPONENT
12/17/11	24-23	W	vs. Utah State	11/9/68	28-27	W	at BGSU
11/16/11	29-28	W	at Bowling Green	10/28/67	10-9	L	at Dayton
10/8/11	38-37	L	at Buffalo	10/12/63	18-17	L	at Toledo
9/25/10	24-23	L	at Marshall	11/10/62	7-6	L	at BGSU
9/12/09	31-30	W(2OT)	at North Texas	10/28/61	17-16	W	at Delaware
8/30/08	21-20	L	at Wyoming	10/7/61	14-13	W	at Dayton
9/22/07	34-33	L	vs. Wyoming	1948	14-13	W	vs. Duquesne
11/6/04	17-16	W(OT)	at UCF	1939	14-13	W	vs. Morris Harvey
10/16/99	27-26	L	at EMU	1938	13-12	W	vs. Cincinnati
11/23/96	24-23	L	vs. Toledo	1932	7-6	L	Indiana
10/24/9	27-6	L	at EMU	1931	7-6	L	Indiana
10/9/82	14-13	W	at EMU	1928	13-12	L	Wittenberg
10/5/80	15-14	L	at Kent State	1921	7-6	W	Cincinnati
9/27/80	22-21	L	vs. N. Illinois	1919	7-6	L	Heidelberg
11/17/79	28-27	L	at N. Illinois	1913	7-6	W	Wooster
9/9/78	23-22	W	vs. EMU	1911	6-5	W	Marietta
11/15/75	6-5	L	vs. Cincinnati	1900	6-5	L	Ohio Wesleyan
9/18/71	20-19	L	vs. BGSU				
10/17/70	23-22	W	vs. Miami				

Overall Record: 16-20 (.444)



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

OHIO IN THE MAC STATISTICS - FINAL REGULAR STATISTICS

Team	
Category	Avg./Rank
Scoring Offense	30.6/5th
Scoring Defense	25.7/4th
Total Offense	435.5/5th
Total Defense	395.0/4th
Rushing Offense	202.0/4th
Rushing Defense	165.2/6th
Pass Offense	233.5/8th
Pass Defense	229.8/6th
Pass Efficiency	140.3/2nd
Pass Defense Efficiency	123.7/3rd
Kickoff Returns	21.5/5th
Punt Returns	9.4/5th
Interceptions	10/T-8th
Net Punting	34.3/10th
Net Kickoff Coverage	41.0/6th
Field Goals	.733/T-9th
PAT Kicking	1.000/T-1st
Sacks	1.67/T-7th
Sacks Against	2.25/10th
First Downs	23.4/5th
Opponent First Downs	21.1/4th
3rd Down Conversions	42.5/5th
Opponent 3rd Down Conversions	44.7/10th
4th Down Conversions	52.6/5th
Opponent 4th Down Conversions	62.5/10th
Penalties	47.7/5th
Opponent Penalties	51.0/8th
Time of Possession	30:54/4th
Turnover Margin	+14/2nd
Redzone Offense	78.6/8th
Redzone Defense	91.4/13th

BOLD - Conference Leaders

Individual-Top 10

Player	Category	Avg./Rank
Beau Blankenship	Rushing	125.0/3rd
Tyler Tettleton	Passing	228.5/7th
Derrius Vick	Passing Efficiency	170.4/1st
Tyler Tettleton	Pass Efficiency	136.8/5th
Tyler Tettleton	Total Offense	247.5/7th
Matt Weller	Scoring	9.1/4th
Beau Blankenship	Scoring (TDs)	6.0/T-7th
Matt Weller	Scoring (kicking)	9.1/2nd
Ryan Clark	Punt Return Average	8.1/6th
Daz' Patterson	Kick Return Avg.	24.3/5th
Kyle Hammonds	Kick Return Avg.	20.2/10th
Beau Blankenship	All Purpose	139.8/5th
Matt Weller	Field Goals	1.83/2nd
Matt Weller	Field Goal Pct.	73.3/3rd
Matt Weller	PAT Kicking Pct.	100.0/T-1st
Thad Ingol	Fumbles Forced	0.18/T-7th
Corey Hasting	Fumbles Forced	0.17/9th

BOLD - Conference Leaders

Ohio (8 - 4 - 0)

Thru: 12/08/2012 - Week 15

2012 SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

8-4 1-3

Mid-American Conference Record: 4-4

Sat 09/01/2012	@ Penn St.	24 - 14	W
Sat 09/08/2012	NEW MEXICO ST. *	51 - 24	W
Sat 09/15/2012	@ Marshall *	27 - 24	W
Sat 09/22/2012	NORFOLK ST.	44 - 10	W
Sat 09/29/2012	@ Massachusetts	37 - 34	W
Sat 10/06/2012	BUFFALO	38 - 31	W
Sat 10/13/2012	AKRON	34 - 28	W
Sat 10/27/2012	@ Miami (OH)	20 - 23	L
Thu 11/01/2012	EASTERN MICH. *	45 - 14	W
Wed 11/07/2012	BOWLING GREEN *	14 - 26	L
Wed 11/14/2012	@ Ball St. *	27 - 52	L
Fri 11/23/2012	@ Kent St.	6 - 28	L
Fri 12/28/2012	@ La.-Monroe ^		

HOME GAME IN CAPS * Night Game ^ Neutral Site
OT Overtime Game

TEAM RANKINGS

120 teams ranked in Football Bowl Subdivision
12 teams ranked in the Mid-American Conference

Category	National Rank	Actual	National Leader	Actual	Conf Rank	Mid-American Conference Leader	Actual
Rushing Offense	28	202.00	Army	369.83	4	Northern Ill.	250.15
Passing Offense	62	233.50	Marshall	365.08	8	Akron	312.75
Total Offense	43	435.50	Baylor	578.75	5	Northern Ill.	485.77
Scoring Offense	52	30.58	Louisiana Tech	51.50	5	Northern Ill.	40.77
Rushing Defense	67	164.75	Alabama	79.77	6	Bowling Green	116.67
Pass Efficiency Defense	43	123.72	Florida	91.59	3	Bowling Green	105.72
Total Defense	61	394.58	Alabama	246.00	4	Bowling Green	289.67
Scoring Defense	52	25.67	Notre Dame	10.33	4	Bowling Green	15.75
Net Punting	97	34.95	Louisiana Tech	43.51	8	Kent St.	40.12
Punt Returns	50	9.38	Kansas St.	22.00	5	Western Mich.	11.18
Kickoff Returns	63	21.45	Kansas St.	29.23	5	Northern Ill.	23.79
Turnover Margin	9	1.17	Kansas St.	1.75	2	Kent St.	1.62
Pass Defense	55	229.83	Nebraska	148.23	6	Bowling Green	173.00
Passing Efficiency	46	140.28	Alabama	172.06	2	Northern Ill.	151.67
Sacks	T-78	1.67	Stanford	4.31	7	Bowling Green	3.08
Tackles For Loss	77	5.33	Stanford	9.23	6	Northern Ill.	7.54
Sacks Allowed	83	2.25	North Texas	.50	10	Ball St.	.83

T=tied at this ranking

PLAYER RANKINGS

Player must have played in 75% of team's games
Summary of the top 100 national leaders and top 25 conference leaders
15 categories ranked

Category	Player	National Rank	Actual	National Leader	Actual	Conf Rank	Mid-American Conference Leader	Actual
Rushing	Beau Blankenship	10	125.00	Carey (Arizona)	146.42	3	Lynch (Northern Ill.)	136.23
Passing Efficiency (Min. 15 Att./Game)	Tyler Tettleton	53	136.78	McCarron (Alabama)	173.08	3	Lynch (Northern Ill.)	152.98
Total Offense	Tyler Tettleton	51	247.55	Florence (Baylor)	387.67	6	Lynch (Northern Ill.)	364.08
	Beau Blankenship		125.00			14		
Receptions Per Game	Donte Foster	68	5.09	Lee (Southern California)	9.33	12	Harwell (Miami (OH))	7.56
Receiving Yards Per Game	Donte Foster		57.18	Williams (Baylor)	147.00	14	Harwell (Miami (OH))	96.67
Interceptions	Jelani Woseley	T-70	.25	Thomas (Fresno St.)	.67	T-7	Lester (Buffalo)	.36
	Nathan Carpenter		.17			T-18		
	Keith Moore		.17			T-18		
Punting (Min. 3.6 Punts/Game)	Grant Venham	81	39.43	Allen (Louisiana Tech)	48.04	10	Karutz (Eastern Mich.)	42.74
Punt Returns (Min. 1.2 Ret./Game)	Ryan Clark	40	8.12	Bernard (North Carolina)	16.44	5	Wilson (Western Mich.)	13.60
Kickoff Returns (Min. 1.2 Ret./Game)	Daz'mond Patterson	41	24.26	McDuffie (UCF)	34.24	4	Reedy (Toledo)	26.65
Field Goals	Matt Weller	T-6	1.83	Sharp (Oklahoma St.)	2.08	2	Schott (Ball St.)	2.00
Scoring	Matt Weller	22	9.08	Dixon (Louisiana Tech)	14.00	4	Archer (Kent St.)	10.15
	Beau Blankenship		6.00			T-13		
All-Purpose Runners	Beau Blankenship	24	139.75	Andrews (Western Ky.)	248.08	5	Archer (Kent St.)	189.23
	Daz'mond Patterson		76.64			24		
Sacks				Smith (Western Ky.)	1.25		Jones (Bowling Green)	1.04
Tackles	Keith Moore		7.42	Molls (Toledo)	13.83	T-18	Molls (Toledo)	13.83
Tackles For Loss	Neal Huynh		.73	Jones (Georgia)	2.05	T-16	Mack (Buffalo)	1.91

T=tied at this ranking



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

OHIO ALL-TIME BOWL RESULTS

The Bobcats are 1-5 all-time bowl games

Bowl	Opponent	Score	Result
Sun Bowl Dec. 31, 1962	West Texas State	15-14	L
Tangerine Bowl Dec. 27, 1968	Richmond	48-42	L
GMAC Bowl Jan. 7, 2007	Southern Miss.	28-7	L
Little Caesar's Pizza Bowl Dec. 26, 2009	Marshall	21-17	L
R&L Carrier's New Orleans Bowl Nov. 26, 2010	Troy	48-21	L
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl Dec. 17, 2011	Utah State	24-23	W

INDIVIDUAL

Category

Rushing Attempts
Rushing Yards
TDs Rushing
Long Rushing Play
Pass Attempts
Pass Completions
Passing Pct. (min. 5 att)
TDs Passing
Passing Yardage
Pass Receptions
Receiving Yardage
TDs Receiving
Long Passing Play
Longest Field Goal
Most Points
Longest Punt
Longest Fumble Return
*School Record

Stat

20
85
1
1
1
59
34
19
73.1
(19-26)
4
223
11
*214
*3
51
52
18
59
91

Player

Dave LeVeck
Dave LeVeck
Tyler Tettleton
Cleve Bryant
Dave LeVeck
Roger Merb
Austen Everson
Tyler Tettleton
Tyler Tettleton
Cleve Bryant
Cleve Bryant
Todd Snyder
Todd Snyder
Todd Snyder
Riley Dunlop
from Boo Jackson
Jim McKee
Todd Snyder
Paul Hershey
Skip Hoovler

Bowl

Tangerine
Tangerine
Potato
Tangerine
Tangerine
Sun
GMAC
Potato
Potato
Tangerine
Tangerine
Tangerine
Tangerine
Tangerine
R+L Carriers
Sun
Tangerine
Potato
Sun

Year

1968
1968
2011
1968
1968
1962
2007
2011
2011
1968
1968
1968
1968
1968
2010
1962
1968
2011
1962

TEAM

Category

Points
First Downs
Rushing Plays
Rushing Yardage
Passing Plays
Pass Completions
Passing Yardage
Total Plays
Totals Yards

High

42
22
22
42
42
176
37
19
269
77
445

Opponent, Bowl

vs. Richmond, Tangerine
vs. Utah State, Potato
vs. Richmond, Tangerine
vs. Utah State, Potato
vs. Richmond, Tangerine
vs. Richmond, Tangerine
vs. Southern Miss, GMAC
vs. Utah State, Potato
vs. Richmond, Tangerine
vs. Richmond, Tangerine
vs. Richmond, Tangerine

Year

1968
2011
1968
2011
1968
1968
2007
2011
1968
1968
1968



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

OHIO DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE

F-WR	81	Tyler Futrell (R-Sr., 6-0, 179, Altoona, Pa.)
	80	Matt Waters (R-Jr., 6-0, 203, Council Bluffs, Iowa)
X-WR	3	Donte Foster (R-Jr., 6-1, 193, Guthrie, Okla.)
	17	Bakari Bussey (R-Jr., 6-2, 205, West Chester, Ohio)
Z-WR	8	Chase Cochran (R-So., 6-2, 182, Lebanon, Ohio)
	16	Ryan Clark (R-Sr., 5-9, 169, Macedonia, Ohio)
LT	74	John Prior (R-Jr., 6-6, 301, Portsmouth, Ohio)
	66	Jon Lechner (R-Jr., 6-5, 332, Omaha, Neb.)
LG	66	Jon Lechner (R-Jr., 6-5, 332, Omaha, Neb.)
	76	JD Bales (R-Sr., 6-5, 307, Beavercreek, Ohio)
C	65	Skyler Allen (Sr., 6-3, 288, Mechanicsville, Va.)
	54	Lucas Powell (R-Fr., 6-3, 284, Edgerton, Kan.)
RG	77	Eric Herman (R-Sr., 6-4, 319, Oregon, Ohio)
	67	Mike Lucas (R-Fr., 6-4, 340, Chicago, Ill.)
RT	61	Bryce Dietz (R-Fr., 6-5, 290, Lincoln, Neb.)
	75	Mike McQueen (R-Fr., 6-5, 305, Garfield Heights, Ohio)
TE	11	Troy Hill (R-Jr., 6-5, 210, New Kensington, Pa.)
	9	Derek Roback (R-Fr., 6-3, 249, Waverly, Ohio)
QB	4	Tyler Tettleton (R-Jr., 6-0, 200, Norman, Okla.)
	15	Derrius Vick (R-Fr., 6-1, 205, Lincoln, Neb.)
TB	22	Beau Blankenship (R-Jr., 5-9, 202, Norman, Okla.)
	7	Daz'mond Patterson (Fr., 5-6, 178, Plant City, Fla.)

DEFENSE

DE	94	Corey Hasting (R-Sr., 6-1, 261, Miami, Ohio)
	96	Kendrick Smith (So., 6-3, 245, Harker Heights, Texas)
NG	93	Neal Huynh (R-Sr., 6-3, 315, Altoona, Pa.)
	91	Antwan Crutcher (So., 6-1, 300, Cleveland, Ohio)
DT	89	Carl Jones (Sr., 6-0, 245, Arlington, Texas)
	94	Corey Hasting (R-Sr., 6-1, 261, Miami, Ohio)
DE	97	Nic Barber (R-Jr., 6-3, 219, Newark, Ohio)
	73	Ty Branz (R-Jr., 6-2, 250, York, Neb.)
WLB	34	Jelani Woseley (Sr., 6-2, 205, Staten Island, N.Y.)
	46	Alphonso Lewis (R-Sr., 6-1, 206, Altoona, Pa.)
MLB	38	Keith Moore (R-Jr., 6-0, 219, Grove City, Ohio)
	36	Ben Russell (R-Fr., 6-1, 234, Cincinnati, Ohio)
SLB	*46	Alphonso Lewis (R-Sr., 6-1, 206, Altoona, Pa.)
	*10	A.J. Grady (R-So., 6-1, 198, Woodbridge, Va.)
*Replaced by	35	Nathan Carpenter (R-So., 5-9, 197, Lancaster, Ohio) in nickel
	26	Mose Denton (R-Sr., 6-1, 200, Lakewood, Ca.) in nickel
CB	45	Lorenzo Fisher (So., 5-11, 170, Washington D.C.)
	37	Devin Bass (R-Fr., 5-9, 178, Omaha, Neb.)
CB	41	Ian Wells (So., 5-11, 192, Dayton, Ohio)
	5	Octavius Leftwich (R-Sr., 6-1, 190, Huntsville, Ala.)
SS	9	Josh Kristoff (R-So., 6-0, 194, Pickerington, Ohio)
	39	Devin Jones (R-Fr., 6-0, 210, Sandusky, Ohio)
FS	13	Gerald Moore (R-Sr., 6-1, 205, Mitchellville, Md.)
	25	Thad Ingol (R-So., 5-10, 190, Barberton, Ohio)

SPECIALISTS

P	48	Grant Venham (Fr., 6-3, 210, Belpre, Ohio)
	or	
	27	Matt Ringle (R-So., 6-1, 225, Ft. Mitchell, Ky.)
PK	49	Matt Weller (R-Sr., 6-0, 205, Twinsburg, Ohio)
	38	Matt Amicone (Fr., 5-6, 170, Zanesville, Ohio)
KO	49	Matt Weller (R-Sr., 6-0, 205, Twinsburg, Ohio)
	38	Matt Amicone (Fr., 5-6, 170, Zanesville, Ohio)
LS-P	47	Miles Chapman (R-Fr., 5-10, 165, Tiffin, Ohio)
	35	Nathan Carpenter (R-So., 5-9, 197, Lancaster, Ohio)

LS-FG	47	Miles Chapman (R-Fr., 5-10, 165, Tiffin, Ohio)
	58	Seth Everhart (R-Fr., 6-5, 290, Carlisle, Ohio)
H	80	Matt Waters (R-Jr., 6-0, 203, Council Bluffs, Iowa)
	15	Derrius Vick (R-Fr., 6-2, 190, Lincoln, Neb.)
KR	16	Ryan Clark (R-Sr., 5-9, 169, Macedonia, Ohio)
	37	Devin Bass (R-Fr., 5-9, 178, Omaha, Neb.)
PR	16	Ryan Clark (R-Sr., 5-9, 169, Macedonia, Ohio)
	81	Tyler Futrell (R-Sr., 6-0, 179, Altoona, Pa.)



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

No	Name	Pos.	No	Name	Pos.	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	Hometown/Previous School
85	Alderman, Adam	WR	2	Dixon, Ian	WR	5-8/165	RS FR	Athens, Ohio/Athens
65	Allen, Skyler	OL	2	Shaw, Jamil	CB	6-0/195	RS JR	Alexandria, Va./Fork Union
31	Amicone, Matt	K	3	Foster, Donte	WR	6-1/193	RS JR	Guthrie, Okla./Seminole State
17	Anderson, C.J.	DB	4	Tettleton, Tyler	QB	6-0/200	RS JR	Norman, Okla./Norman North
21	Atwell, Brandon	LB	5	Leftwich, Octavius	CB	6-1/190	RS SR	Huntsville, Ala./El Camino
76	Bales, JD	OL	5	Rodriguez, Malik	WR	6-2/200	FR	Brooklyn, N.Y./Poly Prep Country Day
97	Barber, Nic	DL	6	Smith, Sebastian	ATH	6-2/180	FR	Columbus, Ohio/Pickerington Central
37	Bass, Devin	CB	7	Patterson, Daz'mond	RB	5-6/178	FR	Plant City, Fla./Plant City
55	Bennett, Andrew	DL	8	Cochran, Chase	WR	6-2/182	RS SO	Lebanon, Ohio/Lebanon
22	Blankenship, Beau	RB	9	Kristoff, Josh	S	6-0/194	RS SO	Pickerington, Ohio/Pickerington
20	Boykin, Ryan	RB	9	Roback, Derek	TE	6-3/249	RS SO	Waverly, Ohio/Waverly
73	Branz, Ty	DE	10	Grady, Jr., A.J.	LB	6-1/198	RS SO	Woodbridge, Va./C.D. Hylton
54	Brown, Blair	LB	11	Hill, Troy	TE	6-5/210	RS JR	New Kensington, Pa./Valley
17	Bussey, Bakari	WR	12	Holloway, Calvin	S	6-1/200	FR	Cincinnati, Ohio/Glen Este
64	Carlotta, Vince	OL	12	Reid, Jordan	WR	6-2/190	FR	Stone Mountain, Ga./Parkview
35	Carpenter, Nathan	S	13	Moore, Gerald	S	6-1/205	RS SR	Mitchellville, Md./St. John's College HS (D.C.)
18	Carrie, Travis	CB	14	Windham, Greg	QB	6-1/217	FR	Tampa, Fla./King
47	Chapman, Miles	LS	15	Vick, Derrius	QB	6-1/205	RS FR	Lincoln, Neb./Lincoln Southeast
16	Clark, Ryan	CB	16	Clark, Ryan	CB	5-9/169	RS SR	Macedonia, Ohio/Nordonia
8	Cochran, Chase	WR	17	Anderson, C.J.	DB	6-2/206	SO	Cincinnati, Ohio/Ohio Northern
91	Crutcher, Antwan	DL	17	Bussey, Bakari	WR	6-2/205	RS SR	West Chester, Ohio/Lakota West
72	Curtis, Michael	OL	18	Carrie, Travis	CB	5-10/212	RS SR	Antioch, Calif./de la Salle
69	Davis, Kendrick	DL	18	Sprague, JD	QB	6-1/190	FR	Cincinnati, Ohio/Mason
98	Davis, Tony	DL	19	Dovell, Mario	WR	6-0/200	RS JR	Columbus, Ohio/Whetstone
24	Davis, Toran	S	19	Hairston, Bryan	CB	5-8/171	RS FR	Gahanna, Ohio/Gahanna Lincoln
26	Denton, Mose	CB	20	Boykin, Ryan	RB	6-1/221	RS JR	Woodstock, Ga./Etowah
61	Dietz, Bryce	OL	21	Atwell, Brandon	LB	6-2/212	RS SO	Wythville, Va./Wythville George Wythe
2	Dixon, Ian	WR	21	Terpin, Mike	CB	5-9/165	RS FR	Pittsburgh, Pa./Thomas Jefferson
19	Dovell, Mario	WR	22	Blankenship, Beau	RB	5-9/202	RS JR	Norman, Okla./Iowa State
31	Edmond, Tim	LB	23	Hughes, Xavier	S	6-1/171	RS JR	Germantown, Md./Seneca Valley
58	Everhart, Seth	OL/LS	24	Davis, Toran	S	5-11/200	FR	Lithonia, Ga./Southwest DeKalb
28	Fay, Andy	S	24	Palermo, Brian	RB	5-8/218	RS FR	Pittsburgh, Pa./Central Catholic
45	Fisher, Lorenzo	CB	25	Ingol, Thad	S	5-10/190	RS SO	Barberton, Ohio/Barberton
3	Foster, Donte	WR	26	Denton, Mose	CB	6-1/200	RS SR	Lakewood, Ca./El Camino
57	Foster, Garrett	LB	27	Macer, Aaron	S	6-0/194	RS FR	Twinsburg, Ohio/Twinsburg
81	Futrell, Tyler	WR	27	Ringle, Matt	K/P	5-11.5/217	FR	Beavercreek, Ohio/Beavercreek
78	Gibbons, Nick	OL	28	Fay, Andy	S	6-0/210	RS SR	Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio/Woodridge
56	Gilbert, Wesley	DL	29	Hammonds, Kyle	RB	5-8/180	RS FR	Solon, Ohio/Solon
10	Grady, Jr., A.J.	LB	29	Timson, Storm	LB	5-10/206	RS JR	Columbus, Ohio/Licking Heights
19	Hairston, Bryan	CB	30	Schany, Jake	LB	6-2/210	FR	Blair, Neb./Blair
89	Hammond, Dayne	WR	31	Edmond, Tim	LB	5-11/240	SO	Cincinnati, Ohio/Hutchinson
29	Hammonds, Kyle	RB	31	Amicone, Matt	K	5-6/170	FR	Zanesville, Ohio/Tri-Valley
53	Haser, Justin	DL	32	Stefanski, Joe	LB	6-2/236	RS SO	Rockford, Mich./Rockford
94	Hasting, Corey	DL	33	Jones, Blake	LB	6-0/225	RS SO	Mechanicsville, Va./Hanover
81	Henry, Davon	ATH	34	Woseley, Jelani	LB	6-2/205	SR	Staten Island, N.Y./Fork Union
77	Herman, Eric	OL	35	Carpenter, Nathan	S	5-9/197	RS SO	Lancaster, Ohio/Lancaster
11	Hill, Troy	TE	36	Russell, Ben	LB	6-1/234	RS FR	Cincinnati, Ohio/Oak Hills
12	Holloway, Calvin	S	37	Bass, Devin	CB	5-9/178	RS FR	Omaha, Neb./Millard North
23	Hughes, Xavier	S	38	Moore, Keith	LB	6-0/219	RS JR	Grove City, Ohio/Grove City
93	Huynh, Neal	DL	39	Jones, Devin	S	6-0/210	RS FR	Sandusky, Ohio/Margaretta
25	Ingol, Thad	S	39	Yazdani, Josiah	K	5-10/201	RS FR	Albany, Ohio/Alexander
82	Johann, Chris	WR	40	Teipel, Nieco	LB/P	6-1/225	RS SO	Ft. Mitchell, Ky./Beechwood
51	Johnson, Jovon	LB	41	Wells, Ian	CB	5-11/192	RS FR	Dayton, Ohio/Stebbins
63	Johnson, Sam	OL	42	Ray, James	S	6-0/185	RS FR	Akron, Ohio/Firestone
43	Johnson, William	LB	42	Scipio, Blake	DB	5-10.5/185	FR	Hilliard, Ohio/Hilliard Bradley
33	Jones, Blake	LB	43	Johnson, William	LB	6-1/215	FR	Compton, Calif./Dominguez
89	Jones, Carl	DL	44	Knight, Tyler	TE	6-5/250	RS JR	Leesburg, Ga./Ga. Military
39	Jones, Devin	S	45	Fisher, Lorenzo	CB	5-11/170	SO	Washington, D.C./Friendship Collegiate Academy
			46	Lewis, Alphonso	LB	6-1/206	RS SR	Altoona, Pa./Altoona Area
			47	Chapman, Miles	LS	6-0/195	RS FR	Tiffin, Ohio/Hopewell-Loudon
			48	Venham, Grant	P	6-3/210	RS FR	Belpre, Ohio/Vincent Warren
			49	Weller, Matt	K	5-11/203	RS SR	Twinsburg, Ohio/Twinsburg



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

No	Name	Pos.	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	Hometown/Previous School	No	Name	Pos.
50	Owens, Chris	LB	6-0/226	RS FR	Pickerington, Ohio/Pickerington North	86	Jordan, Art	TE
51	Johnson, Jovon	LB	6-0/215	RS FR	Solon, Ohio/Solon	44	Knight, Tyler	TE
52	Smith, Mark	OL	6-3/286	JR	Sarasota, Fla./Cardinal Mooney	9	Kristoff, Josh	S
53	Haser, Justin	DL	6-5/260	RS FR	Pittsburgh, Pa./North Allegheny	99	Laseak, Kurt	DE
54	Brown, Blair	LB	5-11/212	FR	Moreno Valley, Calif./Rancho Verde	66	Lechner, Jon	OL
54	Powell, Lucas	OL	6-3/284	RS FR	Edgerton, Kan./Gardner Edgerton	5	Leftwich, Octavius	CB
54	Taylor, John	DL	6-4/260	RS JR	North Olmsted, Ohio/North Olmsted	46	Lewis, Alphonso	LB
55	Bennett, Andrew	DL	6-6/255	RS FR	Erie, Pa./McDowell	67	Lucas, Mike	OL
55	Prichard, Matt	OL	6-0/275	SR	Dayton, Ohio/Northmont	27	Macer, Aaron	S
56	Gilbert, Wesley	DL	6-3/280	FR	Defiance, Ohio/Tinora	60	McGrath, Ryan	OL
56	Rider, Mitchell	LB	/230	FR	Athens, Ohio/Athens	75	McQueen, Mike	OL
57	Foster, Garrett	LB	5-9/190	FR	Columbus, Ohio/Pickerington Central	13	Moore, Gerald	S
58	Everhart, Seth	OL/LB	6-5/290	RS FR	Carlisle, Ohio/Carlisle	38	Moore, Keith	LB
58	Radabaugh, James	DL	6-4/230	JR	Columbus, Ohio/Northland	50	Owens, Chris	LB
59	Price, Eric	DL	6-4/222	RS FR	Cincinnati, Ohio/Wyoming	24	Palermo, Brian	RB
60	McGrath, Ryan	OL	6-6/304	RS JR	Duncansville, Pa./Holidaysburg Area	7	Patterson, Daz'mond	RB
61	Dietz, Bryce	OL	6-5/290	RS SO	Lincoln, Neb./Lincoln North Star	54	Powell, Lucas	OL
63	Johnson, Sam	OL	6-3/316	RS JR	Baltimore, Ohio/Liberty Union	59	Price, Eric	DL
64	Carlotta, Vince	OL	6-4/289	RS SR	Cincinnati, Ohio/Roger Bacon	55	Prichard, Matt	OL
65	Allen, Skyler	OL	6-3/288	SR	Mechanicsville, Va./Fork Union	74	Prior, John	OL
66	Lechner, Jon	OL	6-5/332	RS JR	Omaha, Neb./Omaha Creighton Prep	95	Purdum, Brandon	DL
67	Lucas, Mike	OL	6-4/340	RS FR	Chicago, Ill./Saint Patrick	58	Radabaugh, James	DL
68	Welter, Jacob	OL	6-4/313	RS FR	Danville, Ca./Monte Vista	42	Ray, James	S
69	Davis, Kendrick	DL	6-3/280	RS JR	Cincinnati, Ohio/Mason	12	Reid, Jordan	WR
71	Williams, Bubba	OL	6-1/195	RS FR	Loveland, Ohio/Loveland	56	Rider, Mitchell	LB
72	Curtis, Michael	OL	6-5/300	RS FR	Mishawaka, Ind./Mishawaka	27	Ringle, Matt	K/P
73	Branz, Ty	DE	6-2/250	RS JR	York, Neb./Iowa Western CC	9	Roback, Derek	TE
74	Prior, John	OL	6-6/301	RS JR	Portsmouth, Ohio/Florida State	5	Rodriguez, Malik	WR
75	McQueen, Mike	OL	6-5/305	RS FR	Garfield Heights, Ohio/Garfield Heights	36	Russell, Ben	LB
76	Bales, JD	OL	6-5/307	RS SR	Beavercreek, Ohio/Beavercreek	84	Sawyer, Kawmae	WR
77	Herman, Eric	OL	6-4/319	RS SR	Oregon, Ohio/Central Catholic	30	Schany, Jake	LB
78	Gibbons, Nick	OL	6-4/308	FR	Stone Mountain, Ga./Stephenson	42	Scipio, Blake	DB
79	Watson, Troy	OL	6-6/280	FR	Aurora, Ohio/Aurora	90	Scott, Tremayne	DL
80	Waters, Matt	WR	6-0/203	RS JR	Council Bluffs, Iowa/Iowa Western CC	2	Shaw, Jamil	CB
81	Futrell, Tyler	WR	6-0/179	RS SR	Altoona, Pa./Altoona	96	Smith, Kendrick	DL
81	Henry, Davon	ATH	6-2/232	FR	Round Rock, Texas/Hyde Park Baptist	87	Smith, Landon	WR
82	Johann, Chris	WR	5-11/184	RS JR	Pickerington, Ohio/Pickerington North	52	Smith, Mark	OL
83	Tanner, John	TE	6-4/240	FR	Cincinnati, Ohio/Moeller	6	Smith, Sebastian	ATH
84	Sawyer, Kawmae	WR	6-0/188	RS FR	Cleveland, Ohio/Villa Angela - St. Joseph	18	Sprague, JD	QB
85	Alderman, Adam	WR	6-0/190	RS JR	Granville, Ohio/Granville	32	Stefanski, Joe	LB
86	Jordan, Art	TE	6-3/264	JR	Warrensville Heights, Ohio/St. Peter Chanel	83	Tanner, John	TE
87	Smith, Landon	WR	5-11/180	SO	Girard, Ohio/Girard	54	Taylor, John	DL
88	Thompson, Jordan	TE	6-4/248	RS SR	Rockford, Ohio/Parkway	40	Teipel, Nieco	LB/P
89	Hammond, Dayne	WR	6-6/191	FR	Boardman, Ohio/Boardman	21	Terpin, Mike	CB
89	Jones, Carl	DL	6-0/245	SR	Arlington, Tx./Sam Houston	4	Tettleton, Tyler	QB
90	Scott, Tremayne	DL	6-3/257	RS SR	Ocala, Fla./Trinity Catholic	88	Thompson, Jordan	TE
91	Crutcher, Antwan	DL	6-1/300	SO	Cleveland, Ohio/Glenville	29	Timson, Storm	LB
93	Huynh, Neal	DL	6-4/315	RS SR	Altoona, Pa./Altoona	48	Venham, Grant	P
94	Hasting, Corey	DL	6-1/261	RS SR	Miamiville, Ohio/Milford	15	Vick, Derrius	QB
95	Purdum, Brandon	DL	6-3/255	RS FR	London, Ohio/Jonathan Alder	80	Waters, Matt	WR
96	Smith, Kendrick	DL	6-3/245	RS SO	Harker Heights, Texas/Blinn	79	Watson, Troy	OL
97	Barber, Nic	DL	6-3/219	RS JR	Newark, Ohio/Newark	49	Weller, Matt	K
98	Davis, Tony	DL	6-4/215	SO	Wyoming, Ohio/Wyoming	41	Wells, Ian	CB
99	Laseak, Kurt	DE	6-4/225	FR	Mentor, Ohio/Mentor	68	Welter, Jacob	OL

PRONUNCIATIONS

5	Octavius Leftwich	OC-TA-vious	22	Beau Blankenship
8	Chase Cochran	COCK-ren	30	Jake Schany
9	Derek Roback	ROE-back	39	Josiah Yazdani
17	Bakari Bussey	Bah-CAR-rie	42	Blake Scipio
19	Mario Dovell	DOE-Vell	64	Vince Carlotta
20	Ryan Boykin	BOY-Kin	93	Neal Huynh
21	Mike Terpin	Ter-PIN		

Bo
Shane-nee
Yaz-Dani
Sip-EE-O
Car-LOT-tah
WIN

86	Jordan, Art	TE
44	Knight, Tyler	TE
9	Kristoff, Josh	S
99	Laseak, Kurt	DE
66	Lechner, Jon	OL
5	Leftwich, Octavius	CB
46	Lewis, Alphonso	LB
67	Lucas, Mike	OL
27	Macer, Aaron	S
60	McGrath, Ryan	OL
75	McQueen, Mike	OL
13	Moore, Gerald	S
38	Moore, Keith	LB
50	Owens, Chris	LB
24	Palermo, Brian	RB
7	Patterson, Daz'mond	RB
54	Powell, Lucas	OL
59	Price, Eric	DL
55	Prichard, Matt	OL
74	Prior, John	OL
95	Purdum, Brandon	DL
58	Radabaugh, James	DL
42	Ray, James	S
12	Reid, Jordan	WR
56	Rider, Mitchell	LB
27	Ringle, Matt	K/P
9	Roback, Derek	TE
5	Rodriguez, Malik	WR
36	Russell, Ben	LB
84	Sawyer, Kawmae	WR
30	Schany, Jake	LB
42	Scipio, Blake	DB
90	Scott, Tremayne	DL
2	Shaw, Jamil	CB
96	Smith, Kendrick	DL
87	Smith, Landon	WR
52	Smith, Mark	OL
6	Smith, Sebastian	ATH
18	Sprague, JD	QB
32	Stefanski, Joe	LB
83	Tanner, John	TE
54	Taylor, John	DL
40	Teipel, Nieco	LB/P
21	Terpin, Mike	CB
4	Tettleton, Tyler	QB
88	Thompson, Jordan	TE
29	Timson, Storm	LB
48	Venham, Grant	P
15	Vick, Derrius	QB
80	Waters, Matt	WR
79	Watson, Troy	OL
49	Weller, Matt	K
41	Wells, Ian	CB
68	Welter, Jacob	OL
71	Williams, Bubba	OL
14	Windham, Greg	QB
34	Woseley, Jelani	LB
39	Yazdani, Josiah	K



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

2012 OHIO UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL - ROSTER INFORMATION

Starters Returning/Lost

Offense R/L	15/10
Defense R/L	6/5
Special Teams R/L	8/3
	1/2

Letterwinners Returning/Lost

Offense R/L	48/19
Defense R/L	25/7
Special Teams R/L	22/8
	1/2

Starters Returning – 15

Offense (6) Pos

Tyler Tettleton	QB
Jordan Thompson	TE
Eric Herman	RG
Skyler Allen	C
Jon Lechner	LG
Donte Foster	WR

2011 Statistics

Third Team All-MAC, 267-415 passing, 3,302 yards, 28 TDs
 Academic All-MAC Honorable Mention, Captain, 24 rec., 258 yards, 2 TDs
 Second Team All-MAC, Did not allow a sack last season
 Started in 12 games, Registered 53 pancake blocks on the year
 Started in 12 games, Second on the team with 59 pancake blocks
 Third on the team in receiving, 30 rec., 352 yards, 5 TDs

Defense (8) Pos

Neal Huynh	DL
Carl Jones	DL
Tremayne Scott	DE
Jelani Woseley	LB
Alphonso Lewis	LB
Travis Carrie	CB
Josh Kristoff	SS
Gerald Moore	FS

2011 Statistics

Made seven starts, 32 tackles, 4.0 TFL
 Totaled 11 starts, 22 tackles, 3.0 TFL
 Second Team All-MAC, 62 tackles, 8.0 TFL, 3.5 Sacks
 Made nine starts, 53 tackles, 5.0 TFL, 1 INT
 Third on the team in tackles, 64 tackles, 5.0 TFL, 3 PD
 Second Team All-MAC, 49 tackles, 1.5 TFL, 4 INT
 Totaled eight starts, 52 tackles, 4.0 TFL, 1 INT
 Second on the team in tackles, 84 tackles, 5.0 TFL, 2 INT

Special Teams (1) Pos

Matt Weller	PK
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2011 Statistics

MAC Special Team Player of the Year, 25-of-35 FG, 48-of-49 PATs

Starters Lost – 10

Offense (5) Pos

Donte Harden	RB
Joe Flading	RT
A.J. Strum	LT
LaVon Brazill	WR
Riley Dunlop	WR

2011 Statistics

Earned a tryout with the New Orleans Saints, 187 att, 986 yards, 2 TDs
 Earned SI.com All-America honors, Captain, 35 pancake blocks
 Earned a tryout with the Detroit Lions, 58 pancake blocks
 Drafted by the Indianapolis Colts - 6th Rd, Captain, 74 rec., 1,146, 11 TDs
 Captain, 43 rec., 586 yards, 6 TD

Defense (3) Pos

Curtis Meyers	DE
Noah Keller	LB
Omar Leftwich	CB

2011 Statistics

Made 11 starts, 29 tackles, 4.0 TFL
 Signed with the St. Louis Rams, Two-time captain, 116 tackles, 8.0 TFL
 Started 11 games, 38 tackles, 3.0 TFL, 1 INT

Special Teams (2) Pos

Paul Hershey	P
Jeremy LaVoie	LS

2011 Statistics

Signed with the Kansas City Chiefs, 40.7 yards per punt
 Appeared in 13 games



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES



FRANK SOLICH

HEAD COACH, EIGHTH SEASON

Nebraska '66

Eighth Season at Ohio (58-44, 40-24 MAC)
14th Season Overall (116-63)

- Led Ohio to its first ever bowl win in 2011, winning the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl.
- Directed Ohio to 54 wins since the start of the 2006 season.
- Led Ohio to four straight bowl games.
- Coached 57 All-MAC Players.
- 2006 Mid-American Conference Coach of the Year.
- Served as the head coach of the Aina Team at the 2005 Hula Bowl.
- 1999 and 2001 Big 12 Coach of the Year.

Head Coach Frank Solich has continued a storybook turnaround during his tenure at Ohio University. Now in his eighth season (14th overall), the Bobcats have been bowl-eligible in six of his first eight years at the helm, have won 54 games since 2006 and have had student-athletes selected in the NFL Draft in four of the past five seasons.

In 2012, Solich directed Ohio to its best start to a season since the 1968 campaign as the Bobcats opened the year 7-0 and earned the program's first-ever Top 25 ranking in the USA Today Poll and the Bowl Championship Series standings. In addition, the Bobcats found themselves in the Top 25 of the Associated Press poll for the first time since the 1968 campaign.

Following the 2012 campaign, Ohio earned a bid to the 2012 Independence Bowl to punch its ticket to a fourth-consecutive bowl trip. The Bobcats also placed six individuals on the 2012 Mid-American Conference All-Conference teams.

In his seven previous seasons as Ohio head coach, Solich has guided the Bobcats to an impressive 50-40 record. In 2011, Solich led the Bobcats to their first-ever bowl win as Ohio defeated Utah State 24-23 in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl to finish the year 10-4 in a game that was seen nationally on ESPN.

Ohio's win over the Aggies gave the Bobcats their first 10-win season since 1968. The Bob-

cats' 10 wins were also the most among division I-A teams from the state of Ohio. The Bobcats four losses came by a combined total of just 19 points (4.75 points per game).

Solich's 2011 Bobcat squad set 47 school records, won six of the team's last seven games and had a league-best 11 players on the MAC All-Conference teams. In addition, Solich picked up his 100th career victory following a convincing 30-3 victory over Gardner-Webb on Sept. 10.

Among the 11 players selected All-MAC, place kicker Matt Weller was named Special Teams Player of the Year, offensive lineman Joe Flading was named First Team and quarterback Tyler Tettleton became the first Ohio signal-caller to be named all-league since 1985. Under Solich's watchful eye, Tettleton re-wrote Ohio's single season record book as he set 12 records and became the first quarterback in school history to pass for 3,000 yards in one year, while in the process throwing a program-best 28 touchdowns.

The 2011 campaign also saw Ohio defeat arch-rival Miami for the sixth-consecutive season - the program's longest winning streak since it won six straight from 1937-1942. Since Solich took over in 2005, Ohio has only suffered one loss to Miami.

When it was all said and done, the 2011 senior class posted a combined record of 36-27 to complete the best five-year run in program history.

In 2010, the Bobcats went to the New Orleans Bowl, making the program's fifth bowl appearance and third in the past five seasons.

Following the season, seven student-athletes were named All-MAC and quarterback Boo Jackson finished his career as Ohio's career leader in completion percentage (.604), pass efficiency (136.3), total offense per play (6.18), passing yards per attempt (7.7) and touchdown passes (38). He also finished the season with 26 total touchdowns, 48 in his career, which is fourth all-time. He also accumulated 18 passing touchdowns in 2010 (fourth all-time on the single-season list).

The 2009 season was equally successful as the senior class compiled 28 victories during its four years on campus. In addition, Ohio boasted a school-record 12 All-MAC selections with four capturing All-America honors en route to a second MAC East title in the squad's last four years. Solich was named the conference coach of the year by Phil Steele.

Following back-to-back seasons of bowl eligibility, the Bobcats followed it up with an offensive outburst that rewrote many of Ohio's all-time team and individual records in Frank



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

Solich's fourth year at the helm. In 2008, the Bobcats' aerial attack set three school single-season passing records, including passing yards, passing yards per game and touchdown passes all of which stood until the conclusion of the 2011 season.

Overall, Ohio also totaled 4,337 yards of total offense, which at the time was the third-highest total in school history. Individually, quarterback Boo Jackson threw 19 touchdown passes and put himself in the top of three of Ohio's career passing categories, including completion percentage, yards per attempt and passing efficiency.

Besides Jackson, five players garnered All-MAC recognition, while in the classroom, five picked up Academic All-MAC awards. Perhaps the best individual honor under Solich came with safety Mike Mitchell being drafted by the Oakland Raiders in the second round of the NFL Draft (47th overall), becoming the highest drafted Bobcat since 1948 and the highest under Solich.

With Solich as coach in 2007, Kalvin McRae became the first Ohio player in history to rush for 1,000 yards in three consecutive seasons. Other players achieved success for the offense as well, with tight end Andrew Mooney setting the single-season Bobcat touchdown reception record and quarterback Brad Bower tying the career record for most yards per pass.

In 2006, Solich guided Ohio to its first MAC East Division championship, the program's first MAC title of any kind since 1968, earning the Bobcats a spot in the GMAC Bowl, which marked the Bobcats' first bowl game since that same 1968 season.

Following the year, Solich was rewarded with MAC Coach of the Year honors, marking the third time in eight seasons in which he had won his league's coach of the year award. Ohio's five-win improvement from 2005 (4-7) to 2006 (9-5) tied for the sixth-best turnaround in the nation.

In his first three seasons, Solich guided the Bobcats to 19 victories in his first three campaigns after the squad had won 11 games in the previous four seasons. Since his arrival, Solich has coached 51 All-MAC players. His charges have also gained national recognition. At the conclusion of the 2011 season, Joe Flading earned SI.com All-America honors. In 2009, LaVon Brazill and Noah Keller were named to various All-America teams, while Matt Weller and Gerald Moore were tabbed as Freshman All-Americans. In 2005, Dion Byrum became Ohio's first non-special teams All-American since 1968, and three rookies have been honored on The Sporting News Freshman All-America squads.

Ohio has also seen an increase of national television exposure since Solich's arrival in 2005 as the Bobcats have played on the ESPN Family of Networks 38 times. In 2011, Ohio's final six games were broadcast on the ESPN Family of Networks.

Since Solich arrived in Athens, Bobcat players have been named to watch lists for such prestigious honors as the Maxwell Award, the Butkus Award, the Lombardi Trophy, the Lott Trophy, the Biletnikoff Award and the Nagurski Trophy. Byrum was a semifinalist for the Jim Thorpe Award, presented to the nation's top defensive back, in 2005.

Off the field, Solich is equally proud of his player's accomplishments in the classroom. In the past three seasons, the Bobcats have had 18 Academic All-MAC selections. He has also had two seasons where an Ohio player has been named a semifinalist for the Draddy Trophy, one of the most prestigious academic honors in college football. Academic success is nothing new for Solich's teams. While head coach at Nebraska, almost 90 percent of his student-athletes earned their degree. Seven times Huskers earned first-team CoSIDA Academic All-America honors and on four other occasions, second-team honors were bestowed.

Solich was named the Bobcats' head coach on Dec. 17, 2004. In short order he assembled a talented and tested coaching staff, coordinated recruiting efforts to assure a steady stream of outstanding student-athletes to the program, supervised a highly productive off-season

weight program producing dozens of personal bests and concluded all-business spring drills introducing his players to tried and true offensive and defensive schemes.

Solich's arrival brought a renewed enthusiasm to the Bobcat football program. Ohio used that spark to begin a massive renovation of Peden Tower to better serve its student-athletes.

The momentum carried over into Solich's first season on the sidelines at Peden Stadium. Solich's first win at Ohio came against defending Big East champion Pittsburgh in his home debut. Dion Byrum's two interception returns for touchdown on national television in an overtime victory put the Bobcats on the national stage. The win was one of only two victories for MAC teams against BCS-conference opponents during that season.

Solich arrived in Athens after six seasons as the head coach at the University of Nebraska. Solich spent nearly 30 years as part of the Nebraska program as a player, assistant coach and head coach. A Big 12 Coach of the Year in 1999 and 2001, Solich produced nine-win seasons in five of his six years as head coach of the Huskers. In 1999, 2000 and 2001, he generated 12, 10 and 11 win seasons, respectively. He also generated six-consecutive bowl appearances including a 2001 run at the national championship against Miami in the Rose Bowl.

Under Solich's leadership, Nebraska spent 54 consecutive weeks in the Associated Press Top 10. In his first five seasons as Husker head coach, Solich won 49 games, more than both his storied predecessors, Bob Devaney and Dr. Tom Osborne, in their first five years at Nebraska.

Moving on from Nebraska following a 2003 season in which his Huskers went 10-3, Solich was nevertheless determined to stay as close as possible to the college game until just the right opportunity came along. In a unique professional development opportunity all too often ignored by colleagues, Solich chose to travel the college and professional ranks to update his knowledge of the game, broaden his perspectives on its nuances and challenges and ready himself for the next great challenge.

Stepping back from the sideline included wide-ranging visits to some of Division I-A's top programs as well and the schedule included much more than a courtesy call. His ambitious fact-finding odyssey included stops at Oklahoma, Texas, Wisconsin, Miami and Southern California.

Coming from his native Cleveland to Lincoln back in 1962, he was recruited to play fullback for the Cornhuskers as a part of Bob Devaney's first class of freshmen. During his time in the Husker program, Nebraska went 9-2, 10-1, 9-2 and 10-1. He earned All-Big Eight honors in 1965 and was the first Husker to rush for 200 yards in a game. His place in the Nebraska tradition was formalized with his induction into the Nebraska Football Hall of Fame in 1992.

While his accomplishments as a player were impressive, his work as a gifted teacher and assistant coach perhaps had as much to do with his arrival in the shrine as anything. Nine of the 15 seasons he served as running backs coach, Nebraska led the nation in rushing. He recruited and coached 1983 Heisman winner Mike Rozier and produced at least one all-conference running back in thirteen of the fifteen years he mentored that position. As a head coach, Solich mentored Eric Crouch to the 2001 Heisman Trophy.



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

SOLICH VS. ALL OPPONENTS

Team.....	W	L
Alabama-Birmingham	1	0
Akron	6	2
Arizona.....	0	1
Arizona State.....	1	0
Ball State.....	2	2
Baylor.....	2	0
Bowling Green	4	4
Buffalo	5	3
Cal Poly	1	0
California.....	2	0
Central Michigan	1	4
Connecticut.....	0	0
Colorado.....	4	2
Eastern Michigan	4	0
Gardner-Webb	2	0
Illinois	1	0
Iowa.....	2	0
Iowa State.....	5	1
Kansas.....	6	0
Kansas State.....	2	4
Kent State	4	3
Louisiana	2	0
Louisiana Tech.....	1	0
Marshall.....	2	2
Massachusetts.....	1	0
McNeese State	1	0
Miami (Fla.)	0	1
Miami (Ohio).....	6	2
Mississippi.....	0	1
Missouri	5	2
New Mexico State.....	2	2
Norfolk State.....	1	0
North Texas	1	0
Northern Illinois.....	2	1
Northwestern.....	1	2
Notre Dame.....	2	0
Ohio State	0	2
Oklahoma	1	1
Oklahoma State	3	1
Penn State.....	2	1
Pittsburgh	1	0
Rice	1	0
Rutgers	0	2
San Jose State	1	0
Southern Mississippi	2	1
Temple	4	1
Tennessee	1	1
Tennessee-Martin	1	0
Texas	1	4
Texas A&M	3	1
Texas Christian	1	0
Texas Tech	2	0
Toledo	0	3
Troy	3	1
Utah State	3	0
VMI	1	0
Virginia Tech.....	0	2
Washington.....	1	0
Western Michigan	1	1
Wofford	1	0
Wyoming	0	2
TOTALS	116	62

THE FRANK SOLICH FILE ...

Collegiate Coaching Experience

2005-present	Head Coach	Ohio
• 58-44 overall, 40-24 MAC (Eighth season)		
• Led Ohio to its first-ever Bowl victory		
• Has guided Ohio to more wins than any other team in the MAC since 2006		
• Served as head coach for the Aina Team at the 2005 Hula Bowl		
• Guided Ohio to one of the biggest turnarounds in college football during his second season with the Bobcats, improving from 4-7 in 2005 to 9-5 in 2006		
• Led Ohio to MAC East Division Championships in 2006, 2009 and 2011		
• Appearances in 2007 GMAC Bowl, 2009 Little Caesars Pizza Bowl, 2010 R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl, 2011 Famous Idaho Potato Bowl and 2012 Advocare 100 Independence Bowl		

1998-2003	Head Coach	Nebraska
• Compiled a 58-19 (.753) record		
• Big 12 Coach of the Year (1999, 2001)		
• Coached Huskers to the 1999 Big 12 title		

1983-98	Asst. Head Coach/Running Backs	Nebraska
• Promoted to assistant head coach in 1991		
• Team led the nation in rushing nine times		
• Mentored an all-conference back 13 times in 15 seasons.		
• Coached and recruited two Heisman Trophy winners (Mike Rozier, 1983; Eric Crouch, 2001)		
• Coached more than 250 professional players in 24 years at Nebraska		

1979-83	Freshman Head Coach	Nebraska
• Coached team to a 19-1 record (.950)		

EDUCATION

1966	Bachelor's of Science	Nebraska
1972	Master's of Education	Nebraska

PLAYING EXPERIENCE

1962-65	Fullback	Nebraska
• Three-year letterwinner		
• All-Big 8 Conference		
• Co-Captain in 1965		
• Set Nebraska single-game rushing record for fullbacks (204 yds.)		

1965	Baseball	Nebraska
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SOLICH YEAR-BY-YEAR

Year	School	W	L	Conf.	Bowl
1998	Nebraska	9	4	5-3	Holiday Bowl (L)
1999	Nebraska	12	1	7-1	Fiesta Bowl (W)
2000	Nebraska	10	2	6-2	Alamo Bowl (W)
2001	Nebraska	11	2	7-1	Rose Bowl (L)
2002	Nebraska	7	7	3-5	Independence Bowl (L)
2003	Nebraska	9	3	5-3	---
2005	Ohio	4	7	3-5	---
2006	Ohio	9	5	7-1	GMAC Bowl (L)
2007	Ohio	6	6	4-4	---
2008	Ohio	4	8	3-5	---
2009	Ohio	9	5	7-1	Little Caesars Pizza Bowl (L)
2010	Ohio	8	5	6-2	R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl (L)
2011	Ohio	10	4	6-2	Famous Idaho Potato Bowl Champions (W)
2012	Ohio	8	4	4-4	Independence Bowl
Totals	14th Year	116	63	73-39	10 (3-6)

OHIO COACHING VICTORIES LIST

	Coach	W	L	T	Seasons
1.	Don Peden	121	46	11	1924-46
2.	Bill Hess	108	91	4	1958-77
3.	Frank Solich	58	43	0	2005-pres.
4.	Carroll Widdoes	42	36	5	1949-57
5.	Jim Grobe	33	33	1	1995-2000
6.	Brian Burke	31	34	1	1979-84
7.	Mark Banks	22	17	2	1913-17
8.	Art McFarland	13	10	1	1906-08
	Russ Finsterwald	13	10	1	1920-22



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

OHIO'S RECORD UNDER FRANK SOLICH WHEN ...

	Total		2012		2011		2010		2009		2008		2007		2006		2005	
	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L	W	L
Ohio scores first	35	11	4	2	7	1	6	0	6	1	2	3	3	2	5	1	2	1
Opponent scores first	23	33	4	2	3	3	2	5	3	5	2	5	3	4	4	4	2	6
Ohio leads after 1st quarter	33	9	2	1	4	1	6	1	7	1	2	2	5	2	5	0	2	1
Tied after 1st quarter	15	10	2	0	3	2	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	1	3
Opponent leads after 1st quarter	11	25	4	3	3	1	0	4	1	3	1	5	0	2	1	4	1	3
Ohio leads at half	46	7	7	0	7	1	6	0	7	0	4	4	4	2	7	0	4	0
Opponent leads at half	9	32	1	4	2	3	1	4	1	4	0	4	2	3	2	5	0	7
Tied at half	3	3	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Ohio leads after 3rd quarter	48	7	5	0	7	1	8	1	6	0	4	3	5	2	9	0	4	0
Tied after 3rd quarter	2	3	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Opponent leads after 3rd quarter	8	33	2	4	2	1	0	3	3	5	0	5	1	3	0	5	0	7
Ohio has 100-yard rusher	37	6	7	2	6	0	3	0	2	0	3	0	5	2	8	0	3	2
Opponent has 100-yard rusher	14	21	2	3	2	2	1	2	1	3	4	2	2	4	2	2	0	4
Ohio runs for less than 100	5	25	0	1	0	1	0	4	1	4	1	4	1	3	1	5	1	4
Opponent runs for less than 100	21	5	2	0	5	0	4	1	2	1	1	3	2	0	3	0	2	0
Ohio runs for 100-149	7	11	1	1	2	2	0	1	3	1	0	4	0	2	1	0	0	2
Opponent runs for 100-149	17	9	3	1	2	0	2	2	3	1	1	0	1	0	3	3	2	2
Ohio runs for 150-199	11	2	2	1	0	0	3	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
Opponent runs for 150-199	9	16	2	1	1	4	1	1	2	2	1	4	1	1	1	1	0	2
Ohio runs for 200+	35	4	5	1	8	1	5	0	2	0	2	0	4	2	6	0	3	0
Opponent runs for 200+	11	12	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	3	2	1	0	3
Ohio passes for less than 100	7	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	1	2
Opponent passes for less than 100	9	4	0	1	2	0	2	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0
Ohio passes for 100-199	23	20	3	1	2	0	3	2	5	4	1	2	3	1	3	5	3	5
Opponent passes for 100-199	18	12	4	1	4	0	0	2	4	1	0	4	1	2	4	2	1	0
Ohio passes for 200-299	24	16	4	2	8	3	4	2	3	0	2	5	3	4	0	0	0	0
Opponent passes for 200-299	18	18	2	1	0	3	3	2	0	2	3	1	5	3	3	1	2	5
Ohio passes for 300+	6	4	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Opponent passes for 300+	11	9	2	1	2	1	3	1	3	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	2
Ohio scores less than 20 points	6	36	0	2	1	0	0	3	1	4	0	5	0	2	3	5	1	6
Opponent scores less than 20 points	28	2	4	0	4	0	5	0	5	0	1	2	2	0	6	0	1	0
Ohio scores 20-29 points	13	12	2	2	3	3	0	2	3	1	1	3	1	1	3	0	0	1
Opponent scores 20-29 points	20	19	3	3	4	3	2	3	2	4	1	3	3	0	3	3	2	1
Ohio scores 30-39 points	25	2	3	0	3	1	7	0	3	0	0	0	4	2	2	0	3	0
Opponent scores 30-39	8	15	2	0	1	2	1	0	3	1	1	2	0	3	0	2	1	5
Ohio scores 40+ points	13	1	3	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
Opponent scores 40+ points	2	7	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	1
Ohio commits more turnovers	13	25	1	1	4	2	2	5	1	1	1	5	1	3	3	4	0	4
Ohio commits less turnovers	36	9	7	1	4	1	5	0	7	1	2	1	5	3	2	1	4	1
Turnovers are equal	9	10	0	2	2	1	1	0	1	3	1	2	0	0	4	0	0	2
Ohio commits more penalties	25	25	2	3	4	2	3	3	3	2	2	6	4	3	5	3	2	3
Ohio commits fewer penalties	27	12	6	1	5	0	5	2	3	3	1	1	2	1	4	1	1	4
Penalties are equal	6	4	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	0
Ohio has more time of possession	35	16	4	3	6	1	5	1	5	1	2	4	4	1	6	4	3	1
Opponent has more time of possession	21	28	3	1	3	4	3	4	4	4	2	4	2	5	3	1	1	6
Playing on natural grass	4	6	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
Playing on turf	54	36	7	4	9	4	7	5	9	4	4	7	5	5	9	5	4	4
Overtime games	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Wearing black jerseys	3	1	0	1	2	0												
Wearing Green Helmets	4	1	3	1														



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES



4 | TYLER TETTLETON

Norman, Okla.

Norman North

QB	6-0	200	R-JR
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TETTLETON'S CAREER STATISTICS

	GP	C-A-I	YDS	TD	LG	RUSH	YDS	TD	LG
2009	10	9-23-2	128	0	24	17	-24	1	9
2010									
2011:	14	267-415-10	3302	28	78	166	658	10	48
2012	11	214-345-3	2513	16	79	116	210	4	30
Totals	35	490-783-15	5943	44	79	299	844	15	48

Two-time Phil Steele Postseason All-Conference

2012 Phil Steele Midseason All-Conference Second Team

2012 Team Captain

2012 Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award - Watch List

2012 Manning Award - Watch List

2012 Davey O'Brien Award - Watch List

2012 College Football Performance Awards Quarterback Trophy - Watch List

Games with Three or More Passing Touchdowns

Sept. 17, 2011: vs. Marshall
Sept. 24, 2011: at Rutgers
Nov. 2, 2011: vs. Temple
Nov. 22, 2011: vs. Miami
Sept. 15, 2012: at Marshall
Nov. 1, 2012: vs. Eastern Michigan

300-Yard Passing Games

Sept. 24, 2011: at Rutgers - 341 yards
Oct. 22, 2011: at Akron - 328 yards
Sept. 1, 2012: at Penn State - 324 yards
Oct. 27, 2012 at Miami - 302 yards

2012: Received Phil Steele All-MAC Second Team honors following the season... Became the first Ohio quarterback to throw for 2,500 yards-or-more in back-to-back seasons... Picked up right where he left off from 2011 as he went 31-of-41 for 324 yards to lead the Bobcats to a convincing 24-14 victory over Penn State... He also accounted for three touchdowns and set career bests in completions (31) and attempts (41)... Finished 15-for-23 against New Mexico State for 257 yards against New Mexico State... He also accounted for three touchdowns (two passing; one touchdowns) against the Aggies... Passed for three touchdowns and 200 yards at Marshall as he led the 'Cats back from seven point deficit in the fourth quarter... Did not play against Norfolk State... Returned to the starting lineup at Massachusetts after missing the previous week against Norfolk State... In his return against the Minutemen, he went 15-of-27 for 229 yards and two touchdowns, completing passes to eight different receivers... Passed for 183 yards and one touchdown against Buffalo... Became the school's all-time leader for career touchdowns as he threw for a pair of touchdowns at home against Akron... He also hauled in his first career touchdown pass against the Zips... Recorded his fourth career 300-yard passing game and rushed for a touchdown in a 23-20 loss at Miami... Threw three touchdowns and completed 19-of-27 passes for 255 yards against Eastern Michigan... Passed for 145 yards against Bowling Green to surpass former Bobcat Sammy Shon as the all-time leader in career passing yards... Completed his first 10 passes at Ball State and finished the game by going 22-of-30 for 236 yards through the air against the Cardinals... Capped the season at Kent State by throwing for 232 yards.

2011: Authored one of the finest seasons in school history by an Ohio quarterback last year. In 2011, Tettleton set 12 single season records... Became the first quarterback in school history to throw for over 3,000 yards... The Ohio signal-caller also accounted for 38 touchdowns, passing for 28 and rushing for 10... Finished second on the team in rushing with 658 yards... Earned All-MAC Third Team, Phil Steele All-MAC Third Team and CollegeSportsMadness.com All-MAC Third Team honors... Finished 16-of-28 passing for 153 yards and two touchdowns while rushing for 40 yards and two more scores in his first career start at New Mexico State (Sept. 3)... Had 153 yards and two touchdowns on 15-of-25 passing vs. Gardner-Webb (Sept. 10)... Tallied 332 total yards (279 passing, 53 rushing) while passing for three touchdowns and running for another score vs. Marshall (Sept. 17)... Finished 24-of-37 passing for 341 yards - seventh all-time in Ohio single-game annals - and three touchdowns at Rutgers (Sept. 24)... Had 276 yards and two touchdowns on 28-of-42 passing vs. Kent State (Oct. 1)... Had 203 passing yards and a touchdown while rushing for 66 yards and another score at Buffalo (Oct. 8), becoming the Bobcats' all-time leader in passing yards by a sophomore... Threw for 246 yards and two touchdowns on 18-for-30 passing while also rushing for 30 yards vs. Ball State (Oct. 15)... Logged his second 300-yard passing game of the year as he passed for 328 yards and a pair of touchdowns at Akron (Oct. 22)... Passed for three touchdowns against Temple (Nov. 2) and Miami (Nov. 22)... Finished the year with 220 yards passing and scored the game-winning touchdown in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl (Dec. 18).

2010: Redshirted.

2009: Saw action in 10 games under center, completing nine of 23 passes for 128 yards with two interceptions... 111 of those 128 yards came in the home loss to Kent State... Recorded a rushing touchdown in the win at Buffalo.





INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES



22 | BEAU BLANKENSHIP

Norman, Okla.
Norman North

RB	5-9	202	R-JR
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BLANKENSHIP'S CAREER STATISTICS

	GP	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
2009 (ISU)	7	4	11	0	5	0	0	0	0
2010									
					REDSHIRTED				
2011:	13	93	462	4	48	3	19	0	11
2012	12	243	1500	11	58	20	177	1	28
Totals	32	390	1973	15	58	23	196	1	28

2012 All-MAC Second Team

2012 Phil Steele All-MAC First Team

2012 Phil Steele Midseason All-America

2012 CBS Sports Midseason All-America

2012 SI.com Midseason All-America

2012 Phil Steele Midseason All-Conference First Team

Games with 100-or-more yards rushing

Nov. 10, 2012: at Central Michigan - 129

Sept. 1, 2012: at Penn State - 109

Sept. 8, 2012: vs New Mexico State - 168

Sept. 15, 2012: at Marshall - 102

Sept. 22, 2012: vs Norfolk State - 109

Sept. 29, 2012: at Massachusetts - 269

Oct. 13, 2012: vs. Akron - 108

Nov. 14, 2012 at Ball State - 161

Nov. 23, 2012 at Kent State - 145

2012: Carried the ball 31 times for 109 yards in Ohio's 24-14 win at Penn State on Sept. 1 ... Caught seven passes for 72 yards at Penn State... Surpassed his single game career-high in the first half with 134 yards versus New Mexico State in the Bobcats' home-opener... Would go on to finish with 168 yards against the Aggies... Rushed for 102 yards at Marshall... Tied a school record with 43 carries at UMass and rushed for 269 yards against the Minutemen, marking just the sixth time in school history in which an Ohio running back has surpassed 250 yards rushing... Dashed for 108 yards on 17 carries against Akron... Cracked the 1,000-yard rushing plateau at Miami as he rushed for 74 yards on 16 carries... He also scored the Bobcats' first touchdown of the afternoon against the RedHawks... Averaged 6.5 yards per carry and scored one touchdown against Eastern Michigan... Finished the game with 72 yards rushing... Carried the ball 18 times for 97 yards against Bowling Green and posted an average of 5.4 yards per rush... Became the first running back since Calvin McRae to rush for three touchdowns in a single game as he scored three times at Ball State... He also rushed for 161 yards against the Cardinals... Surpassed 100 yards rushing for the eighth time as he dashed for 145 yards at Kent State to become the Bobcats' all-time single season rushing leader, surpassing former Bobcat Calvin McRae.

2011: Played 13 games, rushing 93 times for 462 yards and four touchdowns ... Ripped off a 48-yard run at Central Michigan on Nov. 10 ... Scored first touchdown of the season at New Mexico State on Sept. 3 ... Rumbled for 129 yards and two touchdowns on 25 carries at CMU on Nov. 10 ... Caught two passes for 16 yards at Rutgers on Sept. 24 ... Rushed for 50 yards or more on four occasions ... Scored 24 total points for the Bobcats.

2010: Redshirted.

2009: Saw action in seven games at Iowa State... Transferred to Ohio following the season.





INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES



49 | MATT WELLER

Twinsburg, Ohio
Twinsburg

K	6-0	203	R-SR
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WELLER'S CAREER STATISTICS

	GP	FG-M	FG-A	LG	PCT	PAT	KO	YDS	AVG
2009:	14	21	29	52	72.4	32	71	4089	57.6
2010:	13	11	14	51	78.6	40	0	0	0.0
2011:	14	25	34	49	73.5	48	84	5071	60.4
2012	12	22	30	49	73.3	43	78	4857	62.3
Totals	53	79	107	52	73.8	163	230	14,017	60.2

FIELD GOALS BY YARDAGE

Year	FG	PCT	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	LG	BLK
2009	21-29	72.9	1-1	5-7	6-8	7-10	2-3	52	0
2010	11-14	78.6	1-1	2-2	2-3	5-7	1-1	51	3
2011	25-34	73.5	0-0	10-10	9-10	6-12	0-2	49	1
2012	22-30	73.3	0-0	9-11	6-11	7-8	0-0	49	1
Totals	79-107	73.8	2-2	26-30	23-32	25-37	3-6	52	5

Three-time All-MAC honoree

2012 Phil Steele Midseason All-Conference Third Team

2012 Lou Groza Award - Watch List

2012 College Football Performance Awards Specialist Trophy Trophy - Watch List

2012 MAC Special Teams Player of the Year

12-time MAC East Player of the Week

2012: Earned Second Team All-MAC honors for the second straight year... Was a perfect 3-for-3 in extra points in the Bobcats' season-opener at Penn State... Also connected on a 22-yard field goal which gave the Cats their first points of the game... Connected on 3-of-4 field goals against New Mexico State and recorded three touchbacks on kickoffs... Was a perfect 2-for-2 on field goal attempts and 3-for-3 on extra points at Marshall... He also collected a pair of touchbacks against the Herd... Went 3-for-6 in field goals against Norfolk State, connecting from 49 and 40 yards out... He also averaged 61.0 yards per kickoff and tallied five touchbacks... Was 3-of-4 on field goals and a perfect 4-for-4 on extra points at Massachusetts... On kickoffs he tallied a pair of touchbacks, posting a kickoff average of 62.8 yards per kick against the Minutemen... Drilled one field goal from 45 yards out and tallied three touchbacks against Buffalo... Connected on a pair of field goals and tallied five touchbacks versus Akron... Was a perfected 2-for-2 on field goals and extra points in a 23-20 setback at Miami... Hit a 25-yard field goal and tallied five touchbacks... Had four kickoffs against Bowling Green, posting an average of 61.0 yards per kick... Connected on a pair of field goals at Kent State to close out the regular season en route to earning his 12 MAC Special Teams Player of the Week honor.

2011: Set 11 school records during his junior campaign (six single season and five career marks)... Named MAC Special Teams Player of the Year, All-MAC Second Team, Phil Steele All-MAC First Team and collegesportsmadness.com All-MAC First Team... Was named MAC East Special Teams Player of the Week on five separate occasions... Selected to the Academic All-MAC Team for his efforts in the classroom... His 123 points were the most points scored in a single season... Connected on 48-of-49 extra points and was 25-of-34 in field goals made... Missed only one field under 40 yards or less... Was a perfect 3-for-3 on field goals against Marshall (Sept. 17), at Buffalo (Oct. 8) and at Akron (Oct. 22)... Connected on a school-record five field goals, including the game-winner, at Bowling Green (Nov. 16) which handed Ohio the MAC East crown.

2010: Played in all 13 games for the Bobcats ... Finished the season making 11 out of 14 field goal attempts and 40 of 44 extra points accounting for 73 points for Ohio in 2010 ... Season-long field goal was 51 yards at Kent State on Nov. 26 ... Made two field goals against the Golden Flashes ... Went two for two on field goal attempts against Toledo on Sept. 11, long of 49, and Wofford on Sept. 4, long of 37 ... Had one field goal from 48 yards at Marshall on Sept. 25 ... Made one field goal at Eastern Michigan where he also succeeded in going three for four on extra point attempts ... Had one field goal against Akron on Oct. 16, against Louisiana on Oct. 30 and at Temple on Nov. 16 ... Had his season-high seven extra points against BGSU on Oct. 9 ... Made five extra points against Akron ... Put four extra points through the uprights on three occasions; at Miami on Oct. 23, against Buffalo on Nov. 4 and at Temple ... Scored three points in PAT attempts against the Troy Trojans on Dec. 18, Wofford and Louisiana ... Made both extra point attempts at Marshall ... Had one extra point at Ohio State on Sept. 18 and against Toledo.

2009: Had a monster freshman campaign by capturing Freshman All-America honors from Phil Steele and CollegeFootballNews.com... Named First-Team All-MAC...Booted 21 field goals, which set a new individual and team school record, while equaling the mark nationally for freshmen.

2008: Redshirted.





INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES



77 | ERIC HERMAN

Oregon, Ohio
Central Catholic

OL	6-4	319	R-SR
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Two-Time All-MAC Selection

2012 Phil Steele Midseason All-Conference First Team

2012 Lombardi Award Watch List

2012: Helped pave the way for the Bobcats rushing attack which gained 175 yards on the ground against Penn State... His started against Penn State marked his 39th-consecutive start... Totaled 13 pancake blocks... Helped pave the way for Ohio's rushing attack as it gained 293 yards on the ground... Graded out at 1.94, registering seven pancake blocks on 48 plays... Helped pave the way for Ohio's rushing game at Marshall which gained 199 yards... He also registered eight pancake tackles against the Herd... Helped open holes for Ohio running backs to rush for 179 yards... Anchored an offensive line that did not allow a sack and helped pave the way for 274 yards rushing at UMass... Graded out at 1.91 against Buffalo and recorded nine pancake blocks and nine knockdowns as the Bobcats rushed for 149 yards and had three rushing touchdowns... Recorded a season-best 17 pancake blocks against Akron... Graded out at a 1.90 and paved the way for 162 yards rushing... Helped pave the way for a season-high 304 rushing yards... Guided the Bobcats' rushing attack to 171 yards rushing against Bowling Green... Logged his 50th career start against Kent State in the Bobcats' regular season finale.

2011: Earned All-MAC Second Team, Phil Steele All-MAC Second Team and Collegesportsmadness.com All-MAC First Team ... Started in all 14 games... Made his 38th-consecutive start in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl... Helped the team rush for over 200 yards on nine separate occasions throughout the year, including a season-best 297-yard effort at Central Michigan on Nov. 10... Logged a team-best 881 plays on the offensive line... Also posted team-bests in pancake blocks (102.0), knockdowns (120.0) and declaters (18.0) Graded out at 1.83.

2010: Started in all 13 games as a redshirt sophomore, including the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl... Helped pave the way for a rushing attack that averaged over 320 yards per game, including a 496-yard performance against Akron... Finished the regular season with 60.0 pancake blocks and 11.0 declaters, while grading out at 1.80.

2009: On the field for 563 snaps, grading out at 1.74 with a team-high 45.5 pancakes and 4.5 declaters.

2008: Redshirted.





INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

		PSU	NMSU	MARSH	NSU	UMASS	UB	AKR	MU	EMU	BGSU	BSU	KSU
TOTAL OFFENSE	OHIO	499	584	399	378	503	333	441	464	559	244	483	339
	OPP	352	206	491	241	511	501	456	424	305	288	588	377
TOTAL PLAYS	OHIO	88	80	87	67	79	63	81	82	70	78	74	87
	OPP	70	57	87	68	84	92	86	69	73	53	67	58
AVG. Yds/Play	OHIO	5.7	7.3	4.6	3.6	6.4	6.8	5.4	5.7	8.0	4.3	6.5	3.9
	OPP	5.0	3.6	5.6	5.6	6.1	5.2	5.3	6.1	4.2	5.4	8.8	6.5
RUSHING YARDS	OHIO	175	293	199	110	274	149	252	162	304	99	231	107
	OPP	92	71	59	179	138	313	158	113	167	197	357	207
Att.	OHIO	47	51	52	35	52	36	53	43	42	44	40	50
	OPP	22	30	22	48	33	56	33	33	52	36	39	38
TDs	OHIO	1	3	0	1	2	3	1	2	3		3	0
	OPP	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
PASSING YARDS	OHIO	324	291	200	199	229	184	189	302	255	145	252	232
	OPP	260	135	432	131	373	188	298	311	138	91	231	170
Attempts	OHIO	41	29	35	20	27	27	28	39	28	34	34	37
	OPP	48	27	65	32	51	36	53	36	21	7	28	20
Comp.	OHIO	31	18	20	14	15	15	14	23	19	21	24	21
	OPP	27	13	44	16	27	19	32	21	9	17	22	9
Pct.	OHIO	.756	.620	.571	.700	.555	.555	.500	.590	.679	.618	.705	.568
	OPP	.562	.481	.676	.500	.529	.527	.603	.583	.429	.412	.785	.450
TDs	OHIO	2	2	3	4	2	1	3	0	3	1	0	0
	OPP	2	1	3	0	4	2	4	1	1	1	4	1
Int.	OHIO	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
	OPP	1	1	1	2	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	1
1st DOWNS Total	OHIO	25	28	26	20	24	16	29	24	25	22	20	22
	OPP	21	15	26	14	28	30	26	19	17	13	29	15
Rush	OHIO	9	13	11	179	13	4	17	9	13	10	8	10
	OPP	4	5	3	110	7	19	10	6	10	10	16	9
Pass	OHIO	15	11	13	199	10	10	8	15	11	8	12	12
	OPP	16	7	22	131	19	7	4	12	5	3	12	6
Penalty	OHIO	1	4	2	7	1	2	4	0	1	4	0	0
	OPP	1	3	1	11	2	4	2	1	2	0	1	0
TIME OF POSS.	OHIO	33:10	31:54	31:26	32:07	29:50	24:31	33:06	29:12	27:00	32:34	32:25	33:27
	OPP	25:05	28:06	28:34	27:53	30:10	35:29	26:56	30:39	33:00	27:26	27:35	23:49
3rd DOWN CONV.	OHIO	13-of-21	8-of-14	10-of-20	3-of-15	8-of-17	6-of-13	3-of-14	4-of-15	8-of-12	4-of-15	8-of-17	7-of-20
	OPP	8-of-16	5-of-14	11-of-20	7-of-16	10-of-19	10-of-19	9-of-18	6-of-17	6-of-17	5-of-14	5-of-9	3-of-11
4th DOWN CONV.	OHIO	1-of-1	0-of-0	1-of-1	1-of-1	2-of-2	0-of-2	2-of-4	1-of-1	0-of-0	1-of-4	1-of-1	0-of-2
	OPP	2-of-3	0-of-0	1-of-1	0-of-1	2-of-3	1-of-2	1-of-3	0-of-0	2-of-2	1-of-1	0-of-0	0-of-0
PUNTING: #/Avg.	OHIO	4-31.8	2-31.5	6-43.0	4-27.8	3-46.3	4-31.0	4-45.5	8-39.1	3-35.7	6-26.0	4-42.0	9-41.1
	OPP	5-35.8	7-38.3	5-43.4	6-29.8	4-42.8	5-31.2	5-38.6	6-40.1	7-42.9	6-50.5	3-32.7	8-38.9
FUMBLES: #-Lost	OHIO	0-0	2-1	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-1	2-0	0-0	4-1
	OPP	2-2	0-0	3-2	3-3	2-1	4-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-1
PENALTIES: #-Yds.	OHIO	5-35	10-85	4-33	11-96	5-47	9-110	4-40	5-58	4-33	2-10	5-50	3-32
	OPP	3-25	4-37	5-35	7-60	8-73	8-89	7-55	1-5	8-85	8-71	1-10	1-10
PUNT RET.: #-Yds.	OHIO	0-0	4-49	2-12	5-50	2-28	1-0	3-40	4-27	3-66	4-(-9)	0-0	2-9
	OPP	3-6	0-0	3-24	2-(-4)	1-(-3)	0-0	2-3	0-0	1-3	2-19	1-5	1-8
KO RET.: #-Yds.	OHIO	3-44	2-43	5-118	2-42	6-99	5-149-1	7-451	2-25	2-48	5-127	9-188	1-20
	OPP	4-65	7-199	4-74	4-76	6-129	4-83-0	5-248	3-86	5-110	4-74	4-124	1-13
SACKS BY-YDS	OHIO	0-0	6-35	2-12	1-4	1-3	1-12	2-21	2-5	4-14	0-0	0-0	0-0
	OPP	1-1	1-7	0-0	1-2	0-0	1-10	1-7	6-44	0-0	4-40	4-22	8-80
RED ZONE	OHIO	3-3	5-6	4-4	5-8	5-6	3-4	4-4	3-4	5-5	2-3	3-5	2-4
	OPP	2-2	2-3	3-3	1-1	3-3	4-4	4-4	3-4	2-3	3-3	4-4	1-1
FIELD GOALS	OHIO	1-3	3-4	2-2	3-6	3-4	1-1	2-2	2-2	1-1	0-0	2-3	2-2
	OPP	0-0	1-2	1-1	1-2	2-2	1-1	0-0	3-3	0-1	1-1	1-1	0-0



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

2012 LONGEST PLAYS

Ohio has totaled five plays of 35 yards or more in 2012

Player	Yds.	Type	Opp
Landon Smith	43	Rec	PSU
Ryan Clark	33	Rec	PSU
Landon Smith	31	Rec	PSU
Beau Blankenship	28	Rec	PSU
Tyler Tettleton	25	Rush	PSU
Tyler Tettleton	41	Pass	NMSU
Tyler Tettleton	28	Pass	NMSU
Beau Blankenship*	33	Rush	NMSU
Tyler Tettleton	55	Pass	NMSU
Kyle Hammonds	44	Rush	NMSU
Tyler Tettleton*	27	Pass	MAR
Derrius Vick	46	Pass	NSU
Derrius Vick	33	Pass	NSU
Beau Blankenship	25	Rush	UMass
Beau Blankenship	29	Rush	UMass
Tyler Tettleton	41	Pass	UMass
Beau Blankenship*	40	Rush	UMass
Ryan Boykin*	51	Rush	Buff
Tyler Tettleton	36	Pass	Buff
Landon Smith*	39	Pass	Akron
Tyler Tettleton	25	Pass	Akron
Tyler Tettleton	30	Rush	Akron
Tyler Tettleton	34	Pass	Akron
Tyler Tettleton	45	Pass	Miami
Tyler Tettleton	33	Pass	Miami
Tyler Tettleton	32	Pass	EMU
Ryan Boykin	57	Rush	EMU
Tyler Tettleton	79	Pass	EMU
Daz'mond Patterson	29	Rush	EMU
Tyler Tettleton	31	Pass	BSU
Tyler Tettleton	68	Pass	BSU
Beau Blankenship	58	Run	BSU
Beau Blankenship	40	Run	BSU
Beau Blankenship	36	Run	KSU
Tyler Tettleton	26	Pass	KSU

*Touchdown

-Ohio had 61 plays of 25 yards or more in 2011.

-Ohio had 44 plays of 25 yards or more in 2010.

OHIO CAREER RECORDS WATCH

PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

1.	44	Tyler Tettleton
2.	38	Boo Jackson
3.	29	Cleve Bryant
4.	26	Theo Scott
5.	24	Sammy Shon
6.	21	Bill Frederick
7.	20	Rich Bevely
8.	19	Andy Vetter
9.	18	Austen Everson
	18	Donny Harrison

PASSING YARDS

1.	5,943	Tyler Tettleton
12.	5,412	Sammy Shon
3.	5,199	Anthony Thornton
4.	4,446	Boo Jackson
5.	3,856	Donny Harrison
6.	3,586	Austen Everson
7.	3,475	Dennis Swearingen
8.	3,414	Cleve Bryant
9.	3,359	Theo Scott
10.	2,873	Rich Bevely

TOTAL OFFENSE

1.	6,787	Tyler Tettleton
2.	6,753	Anthony Thornton
3.	6,262	Sammy Shon
4.	5,702	Kareem Wilson
5.	5,145	Boo Jackson
6.	4,946	Cleve Bryant
7.	4,653	Dontrell Jackson
8.	4,398	Kalvin McRae
9.	4,372	Austen Everson
10.	4,317	Donny Harrison

COMPLETIONS

1.	490	Tyler Tettleton
2.	452	Sammy Shon
3.	408	Anthony Thornton
4.	351	Boo Jackson
5.	334	Donny Harrison
6.	330	Dennis Swearingen
7.	305	Austen Everson
8.	291	Theo Scott
9.	231	Bruce Porter
10.	226	Cleve Bryant

SCORING

1.	400	Matt Weller
2.	302	Kareem Wilson
3.	296	Kalvin McRae
4.	229	Kevin Kerr
5.	184	Chad Brinker
6.	176	Stevland Hookfin
	176	Steve Green
8.	162	Bob Houmard
9.	160	Gary Homer
10.	152	Andy Vetter

MOST FIELD GOALS MADE

1.	79	Matt Weller
2.	38	Kevin Kerr
3.	28	Steve Green

	28	Gary Homer	1972-75	
2009-present	5.	25	Jeff Marchant	1990-93
2008-10		25	Chris Judge	1984-86
1967-69		25	Ron Harter	1980-83

MOST FIELD GOALS ATTEMPTED

1.	107	Matt Weller	2009-present
2.	60	Gary Homer	1972-75
3.	59	Kevin Kerr	1999-02
4.	48	Steve Green	1976-79
5.	44	Ron Harter	1980-83
6.	42	Jeff Marchant	1990-93
7.	35	Brian Huston	1995-98
	35	Chris Judge	1984-86
9.	28	Jim Delverne	1988-89
	28	Mike Fultz	1984-87

FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE

(min. 15 attempts)

1.	83.3 (20-24)	Michael Braunstein	2007
2.	73.83 (79-107)	Matt Weller	2009-present
3.	72.2 (13-18)	Matt Lasher	2005-06
4.	71.4 (25-35)	Chris Judge	1984-86
	71.4 (20-28)	Jim Delverne	1988-89
	71.4 (20-28)	Mike Fultz	1984-87
7.	68.4(13-19)	Barrett Way	2008
8.	66.7 (12-18)	Scott Roberts	1993-95
9.	64.4 (38-59)	Kevin Kerr	1999-02
10.	60.0 (21-35)	Brian Huston	1995-98

PAT KICKS MADE

1.	163	Matt Weller	2009-present
2.	115	Kevin Kerr	1999-02
3.	99	Bill Pataki	1966-68
4.	92	Steve Green	1976-79
5.	76	Gary Homer	1972-75
6.	65	Brian Huston	1995-98
7.	55	Ron Harter	1980-83
8.	44	Bill Bevan	1950-52
9.	38	Jim Kensinger	1969-70
	38	Michael Braunstein	2007

PAT KICK ATTEMPTS

1.	167	Matt Weller	2009-present
2.	129	Kevin Kerr	1999-02
3.	94	Steve Green	1976-79
4.	84	Gary Homer	1972-75
5.	79	Bill Pataki	1966-68
6.	69	Brian Huston	1995-98
7.	66	Ron Harter	1980-83
8.	58	Bill Bevan	1950-52
9.	44	Jim McKee	1960-62
10.	40	Jim Kensinger	1969-70

2009-present



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

2012 STARTING LINEUPS

OFFENSE

	QB	RB	WR	WR/TE	TE/WR/RB	LT	LG	C	RG	RT	WR
at Penn State	Tettleton	Blankenship	Foster	Hill	Thompson	Prior	Carlotta	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Dovell
New Mexico State	Tettleton	Blankenship	Foster	Thompson	Cochran	Prior	Carlotta	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Smith
at Marshall	Tettleton	Blankenship	Foster	Thompson	Hill	Prior	Carlotta	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Futrell
Norfolk State	Vick	Blankenship	Foster	Thompson	Hill	Prior	Lechner	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Futrell
at Massachusetts	Tettleton	Blankenship	Foster	Thompson	Cochran	Prior	Carlotta	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Futrell
Buffalo	Tettleton	Blankenship	Bussey	Thompson	Hill	Prior	Carlotta	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Cochran
Akron	Tettleton	Blankenship	Foster	Roback	Hill	Prior	Carlotta	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Clark
at Miami	Tettleton	Blankenship	Foster	Roback	Hill	Prior	Carlotta	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Futrell
Eastern Michigan	Tettleton	Blankenship	Foster	Roback	Hill	Prior	Lechner	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Futrell
Bowling Green	Tettleton	Blankenship	Foster	Roback	Hill	Prior	Lechner	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Futrell
at Ball State	Tettleton	Blankenship	Foster	Waters	Patterson	Prior	Lechner	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Futrell
at Kent State	Tettleton	Blankenship	Foster	Hill	Cochran	Prior	Carlotta	Allen	Herman	McGrath	Futrell

DEFENSE

	DE	DT	NG	DE	LB/S	LB	LB	CB	SS	FS	CB
at Penn State	Hasting	Jones	Huynh	Scott	Woseley	Moore	Lewis	Shaw	Kristoff	Moore	Fisher
New Mexico State	Hasting	Jones	Huynh	Scott	Woseley	Moore	Wells	Wells	Kristoff	Moore	Fisher
at Marshall	Hasting	Jones	Huynh	Scott	Woseley	Moore	Lewis	Wells	Kristoff	Moore	Fisher
Norfolk State	Hasting	Jones	Huynh	Scott	Woseley	Moore	Lewis	Wells	Kristoff	Moore	Fisher
at Massachusetts	Hasting	Jones	Huynh	Scott	Woseley	Moore	Lewis	Wells	Kristoff	Moore	Fisher
Buffalo	Hasting	Crutcher	Huynh	Barber	Woseley	Moore	Lewis	Wells	Carpenter	Ingol	Fisher
Akron	Hasting	Jones	Huynh	Barber	Woseley	Moore	Lewis	Wells	Carpenter	Ingol	Fisher
at Miami	Hasting	Jones	Huynh	Barber	Woseley	Moore	Carpenter	Bass	Kristoff	Ingol	Leftwich
Eastern Michigan	Hasting	Jones	Huynh	Barber	Woseley	Moore	Lewis	Wells	Kristoff	Moore	Fisher
Bowling Green	Hasting	Jones	Huynh	Barber	Woseley	Moore	Lewis	Wells	Kristoff	Moore	Fisher
at Ball State	Hasting	Jones	Huynh	Crutcher	Woseley	Moore	Lewis	Wells	Kristoff	Moore	Fisher
at Kent State	Hasting	Jones	Crutcher	Barber	Woseley	Moore	Carpenter	Leftwich	Kristoff	Moore	Wells

2012 OHIO IN THE RED ZONE

	RZ	Scores	Points	TDs	Rush	Pass	FG	Did Not Score Because ...	FGA	Downs	Int	Fum	Half	Game
Ohio	3	3	17	2	1	1	1		0	0	0	0	0	0
at Penn State	2	2	14	2	0	2	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	6	5	23	2	2	0	3		1	0	0	0	0	0
New Mexico State	3	2	10	1	1	0	1		1	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	4	4	20	2	0	2	2		0	0	0	0	0	0
at Marshall	3	3	21	3	0	3	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	8	5	31	4	1	3	1		3	0	0	0	0	0
Norfolk State	1	1	7	1	1	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	6	5	23	2	1	1	3		1	0	0	0	0	0
at Massachusetts	3	3	13	1	0	1	2		0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	4	3	21	3	2	1	0		0	1	0	0	0	0
Buffalo	4	4	24	3	2	1	1		0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	4	4	24	3	1	3	1		0	0	0	0	0	0
Akron	4	4	28	4	0	4	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	4	3	17	2	2	0	1		0	0	0	0	0	1
at Miami	4	3	13	1	1	0	2		1	0	0	0	0	-
Ohio	5	5	31	4	2	2	1		0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Michigan	3	2	14	2	1	1	0		1	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	3	2	14	2	1	1	0		0	1	0	0	0	0
Bowling Green	3	3	17	2	2	0	1		0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	5	3	17	2	2	0	1		1	0	0	0	1	0
at Ball State	4	4	28	4	2	2	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Ohio	4	2	6	0	0	0	2		0	2	0	0	0	0
at Kent State	1	1	7	1	1	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

THE LAST TIME OHIO ...

INDIVIDUAL OFFENSE

Passed for 250-299 yards	Tyler Tettleton (255) vs. Eastern Michigan, 2012
Passed for 300-349 yards	Tyler Tettleton (302) at Miami, 2012
Passed for 350-399 yards	Boo Jackson (365) vs. Central Michigan, 2008
Passed for 400-or-more yards	Donny Harrison (409) vs. Kent State, 1983
Passed for 3 touchdowns	Tyler Tettleton vs. Eastern Michigan, 2012
Passed for 4 touchdowns	Derrius Vick, vs. Norfolk State, 2012
Passed for 5 touchdowns	Boo Jackson vs. Akron, 2008
Had 20-29 pass completions	Tyler Tettleton (21) at Kent State, 2012
Had 30-39 pass completions	Tyler Tettleton (31) at Penn State, 2012
Had 30-39 pass attempts	Tyler Tettleton (37) at Kent State, 2011
Had 40-49 pass attempts	Tyler Tettleton (41) at Penn State, 2011
Had 50-or-more pass attempts	Theo Scott (52) at Tennessee, 2009
Had 150-199 yards rushing	Beau Blankenship (161) at Ball State, 2012
Had 200-249 yards rushing	Chris Garrett (222) at Miami, 2008
Had 250-or-more yards rushing	Beau Blankenship (269) at UMass, 2012
Rushed for 3 touchdowns	Kalvin McRae vs. at Bowling Green, 2007
Rushed for 4 touchdowns	Chad Brinker vs. E. Michigan, 2002
Had 30-39 carries	Beau Blankenship (30) at Marshall, 2012
Had 40-or-more carries	Beau Blankenship (43) at UMass, 2012
QB rush & pass for more than 100 yards	Tyler Tettleton (203 pass, 111 rush) vs. Miami, 2011
Had 10-or-more receptions	LaVon Brazill (10) at Buffalo, 2009
Had 100-149 receiving yards	Donte Foster (100) at Kent State, 2012
Had 150-199 receiving yards	Donte Foster (164) vs. Eastern Michigan, 2012
Had 200-249 receiving yards	Todd Snyder (214) vs. Richmond, 1968
Had 3 TD receptions	Taylor Price vs. Akron, 2008
Scored a two-point conversion	Riley Dunlop (Rec.) vs. Louisiana, 2010
QB Ran, Passed and Caught a TD	Boo Jackson vs. Buffalo, 2010

INDIVIDUAL DEFENSE

Had 2 sacks in one game	Nic Barber (3) at New Mexico State, 2011
Returned a fumble for a TD	Julian Posey (38) vs. Wofford, 2010
Recovered a fumble (in end zone) for TD	Curtis Meyers at Ohio State, 2008
Intercepted 2 passes	Travis Carrie vs. Marshall, 2011
Intercepted 3 passes	Tevell Jones vs. Bowling Green, 1997
Returned an int. for a TD	Jelani Woseley (26) vs. Gardner-Webb, 2011

INDIVIDUAL SPECIAL TEAMS

Blocked a punt	Billy Gonzales-Santos at Ohio State, 2010
Blocked punt resulting in a safety	Joshua Abrams vs. Gardner-Webb, 2007
Ret. blocked punt for a TD	Melvin Payne(15) at Akron, 2009
Returned a punt for a TD	Travis Carrie (65) at New Mexico State, 2011
Returned a kickoff for a TD	Daz'Mond Patterson (100) vs. Buffalo, 2012
Made four field goals	Matt Weller (5) at Bowling Green, 2011
Kicked a 50-59 yard field goal	Matt Weller (51) at Kent State, 2010
Had a 60-69 yard punt	Paul Hershey (61) vs. Kent State, 2010
Had a punt 80 or more yards	Paul Hershey (80) at New Mexico State, 2011

TEAM OFFENSE

Scored 80-89 points	vs. Rio Grande (80-0), 1937
Scored 70-79 points	vs. Franklin (78-0), 1933
Scored 60-69 points	vs. Northern Illinois (63-15), 1976
Scored 50-59 points	vs. New Mexico State (51-24), 2012
Scored 40-49 points	vs. Eastern Michigan (45-14), 2012
Had back-to-back 40-point games	vs. Akron (49-42) & at Miami (41-26), 2008
Had 30-or-more first downs	at Akron (30), 2011
Had 200-299 yards rushing	at Ball State (231), 2012
Had 300-399 yards rushing	at New Mexico State (319), 2012
Had 400-499 yards rushing	vs. Ball State (414), 2005
Had 500-or-more yards rushing	at E. Michigan (612), 1997
Had two 100-yard rushers	Kalvin McRae (200) & Voncarie Owens (139) vs. Kent State, 2005

Had three 100-yard rushers	Steve Hookfin (177), Riz Buckman (166) & Kareem Wilson (139) at E. Michigan, 1997
Had no rushing yards	vs. Kent State (-9), 2009
Rushed for four touchdowns	vs. Miami, 2006
Rushed for five touchdowns	at Miami, 2010
Rushed for six touchdowns	vs. Eastern Michigan, 1997
Rushed for seven touchdowns	vs. Kent State, 2002
Had two players rush for at least 2 TDs	Boo Jackson (2) & Donte' Harden (2) at Miami, 2010
Had 250-299 yards passing	at Ball State (252), 2012
Had 300-399 yards passing	at Miami (302), 2012
Had 400-499 yards passing	at Kent State (409), 1983
Had 500-or-more yards passing	Never
Had no passing yards	at Marshall, 1997
Had four different players complete a pass	vs. Eastern Michigan, 2007
Passed for five touchdowns	vs. Akron, 2008
Had two 100-yard receivers	Scott Mayle (109) & Anthony Hackett (108) vs. Iowa State, 2003
400-499 yards of total offense	at Penn State (499), 2012
500-599 of total offense	vs. Eastern Michigan (559), 2012
600-or-more yards of total offense	at E. Michigan (612), 1997
Had 200 yards rushing and 200 yards passing	at Ball State, 2012
Did not allow a sack	vs. Eastern Michigan, 2012
Five-or-more fumbles	at Rutgers (5), 2011
Five-or-more fumbles lost	at Akron (5), 1999
Had a 99-yard scoring drive	vs. Eastern Michigan, 2012
Scored two two-point conversions	at Toledo, 2007
Allowed a safety	at Ohio State, 2010
Allowed a PAT Return	vs. Buffalo, 2008
Did not score a touchdown	vs. Bowling Green, 2008
Allowed 5 or more sacks	at Kent State (8), 2012

TEAM DEFENSE

Did not allow a completion	vs. Wofford, 2010
Recovered five-or-more fumbles	vs. Bowling Green (5), 1986
Recorded five-or-more sacks	vs. Miami, 2011
Recorded a shutout	vs. Buffalo (34-0), 2004
Held an opponent to zero yards or less rushing	vs. Akron (-4), 2006
Recorded four-or-more interceptions	vs. Marshall, 2011
Recorded a safety	at Central Michigan, 2011
Scored two defensive touchdowns	vs. Pittsburgh (2 INT), 2005
Allowed two 100-yard receivers	at UMass, 2011
Allowed 600 yards of total offense	vs. Troy (602), 2010

TEAM SPECIAL TEAMS

Did not punt	vs. Marshall, 2011
10-or-more punts	vs. Miami (13), 2007
Had a punt blocked	vs. Bowling Green, 2012
Had 2 punts blockerd	vs. Bowling Green, 2012
Blocked a punt	at Ball State, 2009
Had a field goal blocked	at UMass, 2012
Blocked a field goal	vs. Toledo, 2010
Blocked an extra point	at Marshall, 2010
Had an extra point blocked	vs. Ball State, 2011
Blocked two kicks in a game	vs. Gardner-Webb (3 punts), 2007
Had two kicks blocked in a game	vs. Temple (XP, FG), 2009
Allowed a special teams touchdown	vs. New Mexico State (KR), 2012
Consecutive kickoff returns for TDs (both teams)	vs. Ball State, 2005
100-or-more penalty yards	at Akron (100), 2011
Allowed two onside kicks	vs. Louisiana, 2010



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

OHIO SINGLE-GAME CAREER HIGHS

#97 Nic Barber

Solo Tackles: 4 at NMSU (Sept. 3, 2011)
Total Tackles: 4 (2x) last vs. Kent State (Nov. 23, 2012)
TFL: 3.0 at NMSU (Sept. 3, 2011)
Sacks: 3.0 at NMSU (Sept. 3, 2011)

#22 Beau Blankenship

Carries: 43 at UMass (Sept. 29, 2012)
Rushing Yards: 269 at UMass (Sept. 29, 2012)
Touchdowns: 3 at Ball State (Nov. 14, 2012)
Receptions: 7 at Penn State (Sept. 1, 2012)
Receiving Yards: 72 at Penn State (Sept. 1, 2012)

#20 Ryan Boykin

Carries: 25 vs. Marshall (Sept. 17, 2011)
Rushing Yards: 135 vs. Marshall (Sept. 17, 2011)
Rushing Touchdowns: 2 vs. Buffalo (Oct. 6, 2012)
Receptions: 8 vs. Kent State (Oct. 1, 2011)
Receiving Yards: 47 vs. Kent State (Oct. 1, 2011)
Receiving Touchdowns: 1 vs. Kent State (Oct. 1, 2011)

#17 Bakari Bussey

Receptions: 8 vs. Buffalo (Oct. 6, 2012)
Receiving yards: 77 vs. Buffalo (Oct. 6, 2012)
Long Reception: 29 at Buffalo (Oct. 8, 2011)
Receiving Touchdowns: None

#35 Nathan Carpenter

Assisted Tackles: 5 vs. Kent State (Oct. 1, 2011)
Solo Tackles: 5 (3x) last vs. Akron (Oct. 13, 2012)
Total Tackles: 10 vs. Kent State (Oct. 1, 2011)
Sacks: 1.0 vs. Kent State (Oct. 1, 2011)
Tackle for Loss: 2.5 vs. Eastern Michigan (Nov. 1, 2012)
Fumble Recovery: 2 vs. Marshall (Sept. 17, 2011)
Forced Fumble: 1 vs. Marshall (Sept. 17, 2011)
Interceptions: 1 (3x) last at Miami (Oct. 28, 2012)
PBUs: 2 vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)

#18 Travis Carrie

Solo Tackles: 9 at Northwestern (Sept. 20, 2008)
Asst. Tackles: 5 vs. Akron (Nov. 22, 2008)
Total Tackles: 11 at Northwestern (Sept. 20, 2008)
Int.: 2 vs. Marshall (Sept. 17, 2011)
TFL: 2.0 at Miami (Oct. 23, 2010)
Sacks: 2.0 at Miami (Oct. 23, 2010)
Forced Fumble: 1 twice
Punt Return Yards: 71 at NMSU (Sept. 3, 2011)
Longest Punt Return: 65 at NMSU (Sept. 3, 2011)

#16 Ryan Clark

Receptions: 4 at Penn State (Sept. 1, 2012)
Receiving Yards: 54 at Penn State (Sept. 1, 2012)
Longest reception: 33 at Penn State (Sept. 1, 2012)
Kickoff Returns: 3 twice
Kickoff Return Yards: 93 at Central Michigan (Nov. 10, 2011)
Long Kickoff Return: 60 at Buffalo (Oct. 8, 2011)
Kickoff Return Touchdowns: None
Punt Returns: 5 vs. Norfolk state (Sept. 22, 2012)
Punt Return yards: 50 vs. Norfolk State (Sept. 22, 2012)
Long Punt return: 35 vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)

#91 Antwan Crutcher

Solo Tackles: 2 (4x) last at Miami (Oct. 28, 2012)
Asst. Tackles: 7 vs. Ball State (Oct. 15, 2011)
Total Tackles: 9 vs. Ball State (Oct. 15, 2011)
TFL: 1.0 vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)
Sacks: 1.0 vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)
Forced Fumbles: N/A
Fumble Recovery: N/A

#3 Donte Foster

Receptions: 11 at Kent State (Nov. 23, 2012)
Receiving yards: 164 vs. Eastern Michigan (Nov. 1, 2012)
Long Reception: 79 vs. Eastern Michigan (Nov. 1, 2012)
Receiving Touchdowns: 2 (2x) last vs. Eastern Michigan (Nov. 1, 2012)

#94 Corey Hasting

Solo Tackles: 4 a(2x) last vs. Eastern Michigan (Nov. 1, 2012)
Assisted Tackles: 7 (2x) last vs. Buffalo (Oct. 6, 2012)
Total Tackles: 10 vs. Buffalo (Oct. 6, 2012)
Sacks: 1.0 (3x) last vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)
TFL: 1.5 vs. Gardner-Webb (Sept. 10, 2011)
Forced Fumble: 1 vs. Northern Illinois (Dec. 2, 2011)

#93 Neal Huynh

Assisted Tackles: 6 vs. Gardner-Webb (Sept. 10, 2011)
Solo Tackles: 4 twice
Total Tackles: 9 vs. Gardner-Webb (Sept. 10, 2011)
Sacks: 1.0 (3x) last vs. Eastern Michigan (2012)
Tackle for Loss: 3.5 at UMass (Sept. 29, 2012)
Fumble Return: 1 at Bowling Green (Oct. 3, 2009)
Forced Fumble: 1 at Akron (Oct. 10, 2009)

#23 Xavier Hughes

Assisted Tackles: 6 at UMass (Sept. 29, 2012)
Solo Tackles: 5 at Rutgers (Sept. 24, 2011)
Total Tackles: 8 (2x) last at UMass (Sept. 29, 2012)
Tackle for Loss: 1.5 at UMass (Sept. 29, 2012)
PBU: 3 at Rutgers (Sept. 24, 2011)
Interceptions 1 three times
Forced Fumbles: 1 vs. Norfolk State (Sept. 22, 2012)

#89 Carl Jones

Solo Tackles: 4 (2x) last vs. Buffalo (Oct. 6, 2012)
Asst. Tackles: 8 vs. Eastern Michigan (Nov. 1, 2012)
Total Tackles: 10 vs. Eastern Michigan (Nov. 1, 2012)
Fumble Recovery: 1 vs. Wofford (Sept. 4, 2010)
Sacks: 2.0 at Ohio State (Sept. 18, 2010)
TFL: 2.0 at Ohio State (Sept. 18, 2010)
PBU: 2 at Miami (Oct. 28, 2012)
Forced Fumbles: 1 (2x) last vs. Buffalo (Oct. 6, 2012)
Int: 1 at Temple (Nov. 16, 2010)

#9 Josh Kristoff

Solo Tackles: 6 at Ball State (Nov. 14, 2012)
Asst. Tackles: 6 vs. Ball State (Oct. 15, 2011)
Total Tackles: 10 at Ball State (Nov. 14, 2012)
Interceptions: 1 vs. Kent State (Oct. 1, 2011)
Forced Fumbles: 1 vs. Kent State (Oct. 1, 2011)
Fumble Recoveries: 1 vs. Buffalo (Oct. 6, 2012)
Tackles for Loss: 1 (2x) last at Kent State (Nov. 23, 2012)

#5 Octavious Leftwich

Solo tackles: 2 (3x) last at Kent State (Nov. 23, 2012)
Assisted Tackles: 2 vs. Norfolk State (Sept. 2012)
Total tackles: 3 vs. Miami (Nov. 22, 2011)
Fumble Recoveries: 1 vs. Norfolk State (Sept. 22, 2012)
Interceptions: 1 vs. Akron (Oct. 13, 2012)

#46 Alphonso Lewis

Solo Tackles: 6 at Kent State (Nov. 23, 2012)
Assisted Tackles: 7 at Ball State (Nov. 14, 2012)
Total Tackles: 10 (2x) last at Ball State (Nov. 14, 2012)
TFL: 2.0 vs. Wofford (Sept. 4, 2010)
Sacks: 1.0 at Ohio State (Sept. 18, 2010)
INT: 1 vs. Buffalo (Nov. 4, 2010)
Forced Fumbles: 1 vs. Norfolk State (Sept. 22, 2012)

#13 Gerald Moore

Asst. Tackles: 5 vs. Kent State (Oct. 24, 2009)
Solo tackles: 8 at Central Michigan (Nov. 10, 2011)
Total Tackles: 10 twice
Sacks: 1 at Rutgers (Sept. 24, 2011)
PBU: 1 (3x) last vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)
TFL: 1.0 (3x) last vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)
Forced Fumble: 1 twice
Fumble Recovery: 1 (2x) last vs. Norfolk State (Sept. 22, 2012)
Int.: 2 vs. Temple (Nov. 27, 2009)

#38 Keith Moore

Asst. Tackles: 9 vs. vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)
Solo Tackles: 10 vs. Buffalo (Oct. 6, 2012)
Total Tackles: 16 vs. Buffalo (Oct. 6, 2012)
Sacks: 1.5 vs. Miami (Nov. 22, 2011)
TFL: 1.5 (3x) last at Miami (Oct. 28, 2012)
Forced Fumble: N/A
Fumble Recovery: N/A
Int.: 1 (2x) last vs. Eastern Michigan (Nov. 1, 2012)
PBUs: 1 vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)

#90 Tremayne Scott

Solo Tackles: 4 at Buffalo (Oct. 8, 2011)
Assisted Tackles: 5 vs. Gardner-Webb (Sept. 10, 2011)
Total Tackles: 7 at Buffalo (Oct. 8, 2011)
Sacks: 1 twice
TFL: 1.5 at NMSU (Sept. 3, 2011)
Forced Fumble: 1 three times
Fumble Recovery: 1 at Marshall (Sept. 15, 2012)

#87 Landon Smith

Receptions: 3 at Penn State (Sept. 1, 2012)
Receiving yards: 82 at Penn State (Sept. 1, 2012)
Long Reception: 43 at Penn State (Sept. 1, 2012)
Receiving Touchdowns: 1 (2x) last vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)
Passing Touchdowns: 1 Akron (Oct. 13, 2012)

#4 Tyler Tettleton

Pass attempts: 41 at Penn State (Sept. 1, 2012)
Pass completions: 31 at Penn State (Sept. 1, 2012)
Passing yards: 339 at Rutgers (Sept. 24, 2011)
Long Pass: 79 vs. Eastern Michigan (Nov. 1, 2012)
Touchdowns: 3 five times
Carries: 23 at Bowling Green (Nov. 16, 2011)
Rush yards: 128 at Bowling Green (Nov. 16, 2011)
Long Run: 48 vs. Miami (Nov. 22, 2011)
Rushing Touchdowns: 2 at NMSU (Sept. 3, 2011)
Receiving Touchdowns: 1 vs. Akron (Oct. 13, 2012)

#88 Jordan Thompson

Receptions: 5 at Buffalo (Oct. 8, 2011)
Yards: 49 vs. Buffalo (Nov. 4, 2010)
Long: 29 at Tennessee (Sept. 26, 2009)
Receiving Touchdowns: 2 vs. BGSU (Oct. 9, 2010)

#48 Grant Venham

Punts: 9 at Kent State (Nov. 23, 2012)
Punting Yards: 370 at Kent State (Nov. 23, 2012)
Punting average: 43.0 at Marshall (Sept. 15, 2012)
Longest punt: 68 yards at Kent State (Nov. 23, 2012)

#49 Matt Weller

Field Goal Attempts: 6 (2x) last vs. Norfolk State (Sept. 22, 2012)
Fields Goals Made: 5 at Bowling Green (Nov. 16, 2011)
Long: 52 yards at Ball State (Oct. 31, 2009)
Kickoff attempts: 10 vs. vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)
Kickoff yards: 616 vs. New Mexico State (Sept. 8, 2012)
Average per kick: 72.7 at NMSU (Sept. 3, 2011)

#34 Jelani Woseley

Solo Tackles: 8 vs. Akron (Oct. 13, 2012)
Assisted Tackles: 6 (3x) last vs. Akron (Oct. 13, 2012)
Total Tackles: 14 vs. Akron (Oct. 13, 2012)
TFL: 2.5 vs. Akron (Oct. 13, 2012)
PBU: 1 (3x) last vs. Akron (Oct. 13, 2012)
Fumble Recovery: 1 vs. Wofford (Sept. 4, 2010)
Interceptions: 1 (2x) last at Kent State (Nov. 23, 2012)
Sacks: 1 vs. Akron (Oct. 13, 2012)



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

2012 SEASON STATISTICS

Date	Opponent	Score	Att.
Sep 01, 2012	at Penn State	W 24-14	97186
Sep 08, 2012	NEW MEXICO STATE	W 51-24	25893
Sep 15, 2012	at MARSHALL	W 27-24	33436
Sep 22, 2012	NORFOLK STATE	W 44-10	23673
* Sep 29, 2012	at Massachusetts	W 37-34	8321
* Oct 06, 2012	BUFFALO	W 38-31	20044
* Oct 13, 2012	AKRON	W 34-28	25542
* Oct 27, 2012	at Miami	L 20-23	19326
* Nov 01, 2012	EASTERN MICHIGAN	W 45-14	16789
* Nov 07, 2012	BOWLING GREEN	L 14-26	19122
* 11/14/12	at Ball State	L 27-52	10097
* Nov 23, 2012	at #23 Kent State	L 6-28	18230

Rushing	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
BLANKENSHIP, Be	12	293	1537	37	1500	5.1	11	58	125.0
BOYKIN, Ryan	7	74	457	12	445	6.0	4	57	63.6
TETTLETON, T	11	116	464	254	210	1.8	4	30	19.1
PATTERSON, Daz'	11	29	164	5	159	5.5	1	29	14.5
HAMMONDS, Kyle	8	10	85	3	82	8.2	0	44	10.2
VICK, Derrius	6	16	77	3	74	4.6	0	13	12.3
PALERMO, Brian	2	5	19	1	18	3.6	0	11	9.0
COCHRAN, Chase	12	1	11	0	11	11.0	0	11	0.9
VENHAM, Grant	12	1	4	0	4	4.0	0	4	0.3
SMITH, Landon	8	1	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
FUTRELL, Tyler	10	1	0	10	-10	-10.0	0	0	-1.0
CLARK, Ryan	12	1	0	12	-12	-12.0	0	0	-1.0
WELLER, Matt	12	1	0	22	-22	-22.0	0	0	-1.8
Team	9	9	1	36	-35	-3.9	0	1	-3.9
Total	12	558	2819	395	2424	4.3	20	58	202.0
Opponents	12	429	2170	188	1982	4.6	12	68	165.2

Passing	gp	effic	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
TETTLETON, T	11	136.78	214-345-3	62.0	2513	16	79	228.5
VICK, Derrius	6	170.39	19-30-1	63.3	249	4	46	41.5
Team	9	0.00	0-2-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
WATERS, Matt	12	108.40	1-1-0	100.0	1	0	1	0.1
SMITH, Landon	8	757.60	1-1-0	100.0	39	1	39	4.9
Total	12	140.28	235-379-4	62.0	2802	21	79	233.5
Opponents	12	123.70	246-434-10	56.7	2758	24	55	229.8

Receiving	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
FOSTER, Donte	11	56	629	11.2	7	79	57.2
BUSSEY, Bakari	12	37	313	8.5	0	34	26.1
FUTRELL, Tyler	10	23	289	12.6	2	50	28.9
BLANKENSHIP, Be	12	20	177	8.9	1	28	14.8
COCHRAN, Chase	12	19	215	11.3	3	45	17.9
CLARK, Ryan	12	16	175	10.9	1	33	14.6
WATERS, Matt	12	14	225	16.1	0	36	18.8
HILL, Troy	12	14	169	12.1	3	41	14.1
SMITH, Landon	8	8	198	24.8	2	43	24.8
THOMPSON, Jorda	6	8	95	11.9	1	23	15.8
ROBACK, Derek	8	7	123	17.6	0	46	15.4
PATTERSON, Daz'	11	4	98	24.5	0	68	8.9
DOVELL, Mario	1	3	29	9.7	0	19	29.0
BOYKIN, Ryan	7	3	14	4.7	0	8	2.0
TETTLETON, T	11	2	52	26.0	1	39	4.7
EDMOND, Tim	12	1	1	1.0	0	1	0.1
Total	12	235	2802	11.9	21	79	233.5
Opponents	12	246	2758	11.2	24	55	229.8

Field Goals	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
WELLER, Matt	22-30	73.3	0-0	9-11	6-11	7-8	0-0	49	2

Scoring	td	fg	kick	rush	rcv	pass	dxp	saf	pts
WELLER, Matt	-	22-30	43-43	-	-	-	-	-	109
BLANKENSHIP, Be	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	72
FOSTER, Donte	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
TETTLETON, T	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
BOYKIN, Ryan	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
HILL, Troy	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
COCHRAN, Chase	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
PATTERSON, Daz'	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
FUTRELL, Tyler	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
SMITH, Landon	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
CARPENTER, Nate	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
CLARK, Ryan	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
THOMPSON, Jorda	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Total	42	22-30	43-43	-	-	-	-	-	247

Record:	Overall	Home	Away	Neutral
All games	8-4	5-1	3-3	0-0
Conference	4-4	3-1	1-3	0-0
Non-Conference	4-0	2-0	2-0	0-0

Team Statistics	OHIO	OPP
FIRST DOWNS	281	253
Rushing	124	105
Passing	133	129
Penalty	24	19
RUSHING YARDAGE	2424	1982
Rushing Attempts	558	429
Average Per Rush	4.3	4.6
Average Per Game	202.0	165.2
TDs Rushing	20	12
PASSING YARDAGE	2802	2758
Comp-Att-Int	235-379-4	246-434-10
Average Per Pass	7.4	6.4
Average Per Catch	11.9	11.2
Average Per Game	233.5	229.8
TDs Passing	21	24
TOTAL OFFENSE	5226	4740
Average Per Play	5.6	5.5
Average Per Game	435.5	395.0
KICK RETURNS: #-Yards	44-944	48-1057
PUNT RETURNS: #-Yards	29-272	17-61
INT RETURNS: #-Yards	10-51	4-38
FUMBLES-LOST	10-4	15-12
PENALTIES-Yards	62-572	66-612
PUNTS-AVG	57-37.2	68-39.1
TIME OF POSSESSION/Game	30:53	28:43
3RD-DOWN Conversions	82/193	85/190
4TH-DOWN Conversions	10/19	10/16

Interceptions	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
WOSELEY, Jelani	3	9	3.0	0	8
CARPENTER, Nate	2	22	11.0	1	22
MOORE, Keith	2	0	0.0	0	0
LEFTWICH, Octav	1	0	0.0	0	0
BASS, Devin	1	20	20.0	0	20
INGOL, Thad	1	0	0.0	0	0

Punting	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
VENHAM, Grant	53	2090	39.4	68	5	18	24	10	1
Team	4	28	7.0	28	0	0	0	0	3

Punt Returns	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
CLARK, Ryan	25	203	8.1	0	35
PATTERSON, Daz'	2	28	14.0	0	22
FUTRELL, Tyler	2	41	20.5	0	38
Total	29	272	9.4	0	38
Opponents	17	61	3.6	0	10

Kick Returns	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
PATTERSON, Daz'	23	558	24.3	1	100
HAMMONDS, Kyle	12	242	20.2	0	41
BASS, Devin	6	121	20.2	0	28
CLARK, Ryan	2	23	11.5	0	14
SMITH, Kendric	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	44	944	21.5	1	100
Opponents	48	1057	22.0	1	91

All Purpose	g	rush	rcv	pr	kr	ir	total	avg/g
BLANKENSHIP, Be	12	1500	177	0	0	0	1677	139.8
PATTERSON, D	11	159	98	28	558	0	843	76.6
FOSTER, Donte	11	0	629	0	0	0	629	57.2
BOYKIN, Ryan	7	445	14	0	0	0	459	65.6
CLARK, Ryan	12	-12	175	203	23	0	389	32.4
Total	12	2424	2802	272	944	51	6493	541.1
Opponents	12	1982	2758	61	1057	38	5896	491.3

Total Offense	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
TETTLETON, T	11	461	210	2513	2723	247.5
BLANKENSHIP, Be	12	293	1500	0	1500	125.0
BOYKIN, Ryan	7	74	445	0	445	63.6
VICK, Derrius	6	46	74	249	323	53.8
PATTERSON, Daz'	11	29	159	0	159	14.5
Total	12	937	2424	2802	5226	435.5
Opponents	12	863	1982	2758	4740	395.0



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

2012 DEFENSIVE SEASON STATISTICS

##	Defensive Leaders	gp	Tackles			Sacks	Pass defense			Fumbles		blkd	
			ua	a	tot		int-yds	brup	qbh	rcv-yds	ff	kick	saf
38	MOORE, Keith	12	39	50	89	3.5-8	1.0-2	2-0	2	1-0	.	.	.
46	LEWIS, Alphonso	12	31	29	60	1.5-7	0.5-6	.	2	1-0	1	.	.
9	KRISTOFF, Josh	12	31	25	56	2.0-2	.	.	2	1-0	.	.	.
34	WOSELEY, Jelani	12	27	29	56	7.0-26	1.5-15	3-9	5	2	.	.	.
89	JONES, Carl	12	17	36	53	5.5-15	2.0-8	.	2	1	1	.	.
94	HASTING, Corey	12	16	35	51	7.0-20	1.5-8	.	1	3	2	.	.
35	CARPENTER, Nate	12	33	17	50	6.0-15	1.0-7	2-22	3	2-48	.	.	.
45	FISHER, Lorenzo	12	36	9	45	.	.	.	8	1-13	1	.	.
41	WELLS, Ian	12	31	12	43	1.0-10	1.0-10	.	7	1-0	1	.	.
13	MOORE, Gerald	10	22	19	41	1.5-5	.	.	3	1-0	1	.	.
91	CRUTCHER, Antwa	12	12	28	40	3.0-14	1.5-9	.	.	1	.	.	.
37	BASS, Devin	12	33	6	39	2.0-2	.	1-20	6	.	.	.	.
25	INGOL, Thad	11	17	11	28	.	.	1-0	1	.	2	.	.
93	HUYNH, Neal	11	9	17	26	8.0-30	2.5-12	.	4	.	.	.	.
73	BRANZ, Ty	12	6	16	22	3.0-11	2.0-8	.	1	.	.	.	.
26	DENTON, Mose	12	10	9	19	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.
36	RUSSELL, Ben	10	4	15	19	1.0-2	0.5-0	.	.	1	.	.	.
23	HUGHES, Xavier	4	8	8	16	2.0-1	.	.	1	.	1	.	.
96	SMITH, Kendric	12	4	10	14	0.5-0	0.5-0	.	.	.	.	.	.
97	BARBER, Nic	10	6	7	13	2.0-5	1.0-3	.	.	.	.	.	.
31	EDMOND, Tim	12	4	8	12	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
21	ATWELL, Brandon	11	6	6	12	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
5	LEFTWICH, Octav	11	6	5	11	1.0-3	.	1-0	.	1-9	1	.	.
69	DAVIS, Kendrick	10	3	7	10	2.5-11	2.0-9	.	.	.	.	.	.
39	JONES, Devin	10	5	5	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
90	SCOTT, Tremayne	3	2	7	9	1.5-3	.	.	.	1-5	.	.	.
95	PURDUM, Brandon	8	1	6	7	0.5-1	0.5-1	.	.	1	.	.	.
2E	FAY, Andy	11	.	6	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
33	JONES, Blake	11	2	4	6	1.0-9	1.0-9	.	.	.	.	.	.
98	DAVIS, Tony	3	.	4	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2C	MACER, Aaron	7	.	3	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
4A	SCIPIO, Blake	7	3	.	3	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
84	JORDAN, Art	10	3	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
42	RAY, James	6	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
47	CHAPMAN, Miles	12	1	2	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
49	WELLER, Matt	12	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
51	JOHNSON, Jovon	10	2	1	3	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
10	GRADY, A.J.	10	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
32	STEFANSKI, Joe	2	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
27	RINGLE, Matt	1	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
80	WATERS, Matt	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
TM	Team	9	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
7	PATTERSON, Daz'	11	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
44	KNIGHT, Tyler	10	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
50	OWENS, Chris	2	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
4	TETTLETON, T	11	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
77	HERMAN, Eric	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
16	CLARK, Ryan	12	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
Total		12	442	460	902	64-202	20-107	10-51	53	9	12-75	11	.
Opponents		12	516	558	1074	66-353	27-213	4-38	38	9	4-53	5	6 1



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

GAME-BY-GAME RECAPS

OHIO 24 (1-0) at PENN STATE 14 (0-1)

SEPT. 1, 2012

UNIVERSITY PARK, PA. | BEAVER STADIUM (97,186)

-With the win over Penn State, Ohio claimed its first-ever victory over the Nittany Lions.
 -Ohio's win over Penn State gives the Bobcats their seventh win in the last eight games dating back to last season.
 -The Bobcats have now posted wins in their last three season openers. The last time Ohio won three straight season-openers was back in the 1976, 77 and 78 seasons.
 -Ohio head coach Frank Solich improved to 33-18 all-time in the month of September.
 -Ohio's win over Penn State was its first victory over a Big Ten opponent since the Bobcats defeated Illinois back in 2006. Ohio improves to 6-37-1 all-time against Big Ten opponents.
 -At the end of the first quarter, Penn State had outgained Ohio 173-52, but the `Cats responded over the next three quarters, outgaining the Nittany Lions 447-173.
 -Ohio outgained Penn State 499-352.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Ohio	0	3	14	7	24
Penn State	7	7	0	0	14

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	00:03	PSU - Belton, Bill 6 yd pass from McGloin, Matt (Ficken, Sam kick), 10-80 3:17
2nd	10:22	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 22 yd field goal, 4-8 1:21
	01:29	PSU - Lehman, Matt 14 yd pass from McGloin, Matt (Ficken, Sam kick), 3-18 0:55
3rd	10:40	OHIO - SMITH, Landon 43 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 12-82 4:15
	03:49	OHIO - TETTLETON, T 1 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 8-70 2:49
4th	02:55	OHIO - FOSTER, Donté 5 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 14-93 6:42

	OHIO	PSU
FIRST DOWNS	25	21
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	47-175	22-92
PASSING YDS (NET)	324	260
Passes Att-Comp-Int	41-31-0	48-27-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	88-499	70-352
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	3-6
Kickoff Returns-Yards	3-44	4-65
Interception Returns-Yards	1-1	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	4-31.8	5-35.8
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-2
Penalties-Yards	5-35	3-25
Possession Time	33:10	25:05
Third-Down Conversions	13 of 21	8 of 16
Fourth-Down Conversions	1 of 1	2 of 3
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	3-3	2-2
Sacks By: Number-Yards	0-0	1-1

RUSHING: Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 31-109; TETTLETON, T 9-47; COCHRAN, Chase 1-11; BOYKIN, Ryan 3-9; HAMMONDS, Kyle 1-1; Team 2-minus 2. Penn State-Belton, Bill 13-53; Day, Derek 8-36; Zordich, M. 1-3.

PASSING: Ohio-TETTLETON, T 31-41-0-324. Penn State-McGloin, Matt 27-48-1-260.

RECEIVING: Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 7-72; FOSTER, Donté 5-32; CLARK, Ryan 4-54; SMITH, Landon 3-82; DOVELL, Mario 3-29; BUSSEY, Bakari 3-11; FUTRELL, Tyler 2-20; COCHRAN, Chase 2-8; THOMPSON, Jorda 1-11; HILL, Troy 1-5. Penn State-Robinson, Allen 9-97; Carter, Kyle 6-74; Kersey, Shawney 5-35; Belton, Bill 3-16; Kenney, Alex 2-21; Lehman, Matt 1-14; Day, Derek 1-3.

INTERCEPTIONS: Ohio-WOSELEY, Jelani 1-1. Penn State-None.

FUMBLES: Ohio-None. Penn State-Belton, Bill 1-1; Hodges, Gerald 1-1.

Ohio (1-0) vs. Penn State (0-1)

Date: Sep 01, 2012 • Site: University Park, Pa. • Stadium: Beaver Stadium
 Attendance: 97186

OHIO 51 (2-0) vs. NEW MEXICO STATE 24 (1-1)

SEPT. 8, 2012

ATHENS, OHIO | PEDEN STADIUM (25,893)

-Ohio's home-opener against New Mexico State drew a stadium record crowd of 25,893 fans.
 -With the win over New Mexico State, Ohio improved to 2-0 all-time against the Aggies.
 -Ohio has opened the year 2-0 for the fourth time in the Solich Era.
 -The win over New Mexico State marks the third straight home-opening win for the Bobcats. Ohio has also won eight of its last nine games.
 -Ohio has won six of its last seven games against non-conference opponents.
 -Ohio is now 10-1 in its last 11 games at home.
 -The Bobcats' 51-point output marks the first time since 2008 in which Ohio has posted 50-or-more points.
 -Ohio never trailed in the game.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
New Mexico State	7	7	10	0	24
Ohio	7	14	24	6	51

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	11:09	OHIO - TETTLETON, T 6 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 7-68 2:23
	05:51	NMSU - Powell, Tiger 2 yd run (Stampler, Tyler kick), 11-75 5:18
2nd	13:42	OHIO - FOSTER, Donté 28 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 7-49 1:35
	10:40	NMSU - Franklin, A. 42 yd pass from Manley, Andrew (Stampler, Tyler kick), 6-78 2:54
	04:54	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 33 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 5-76 2:00
3rd	11:55	NMSU - Stampler, Tyler 38 yd field goal, 7-23 2:12
	10:45	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 37 yd field goal, 5-55 1:10
	06:44	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 5 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 5-32 2:25
	06:30	OHIO - CARPENTER, Nate 22 yd interception return (WELLER, Matt kick)
	00:51	OHIO - SMITH, Landon 40 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 7-80 2:51
	00:37	NMSU - Mustafa, A. 91 yd kickoff return (Stampler, Tyler kick)
4th	10:15	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 25 yd field goal, 13-67 5:22
	04:48	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 26 yd field goal, 9-72 4:01

	NMSU	OHIO
FIRST DOWNS	15	28
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	30-71	51-293
PASSING YDS (NET)	135	291
Passes Att-Comp-Int	27-13-1	29-18-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	57-206	80-584
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	4-49
Kickoff Returns-Yards	7-199	2-43
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	1-22
Punts (Number-Avg)	7-38.3	2-31.5
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-1
Penalties-Yards	4-37	10-85
Possession Time	28:06	31:54
Third-Down Conversions	5 of 14	8 of 14
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	2-3	5-6
Sacks By: Number-Yards	1-7	6-35

RUSHING: New Mexico State-Powell, Tiger 14-41; Morrison, G. 7-39; Mustafa, A. 2-19; McDonald, A. 3-1; Manley, Andrew 4-minus 29. Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 27-168; HAMMONDS, Kyle 2-47; PATTERSON, Daz' 6-35; VICK, Derrius 6-21; TETTLETON, T 7-18; PALERMO, Brian 2-16; CLARK, Ryan 1-minus 12.

PASSING: New Mexico State-Manley, Andrew 12-24-1-132; McDonald, A. 1-3-0-3. Ohio-TETTLETON, T 15-23-0-257; VICK, Derrius 3-6-0-34.

RECEIVING: New Mexico State-Franklin, A. 5-72; Bateman, K. 4-45; Mustafa, A. 2-3; Matthews, J. 1-12; Shapiro, Adam 1-3. Ohio-FOSTER, Donté 5-57; BUSSEY, Bakari 3-29; COCHRAN, Chase 3-13; THOMPSON, Jorda 2-29; FUTRELL, Tyler 1-50; HILL, Troy 1-41; SMITH, Landon 1-40; PATTERSON, Daz' 1-22; CLARK, Ryan 1-10.

INTERCEPTIONS: New Mexico State-None. Ohio-CARPENTER, Nate 1-22.

FUMBLES: New Mexico State-None. Ohio-CLARK, Ryan 1-0; BUSSEY, Bakari 1-1.

New Mexico State (1-1) vs. Ohio (2-0)

Date: Sep 08, 2012 • Site: Athens, Ohio • Stadium: Peden Stadium
 Attendance: 25893



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

GAME-BY-GAME RECAPS

OHIO 27 (3-0) at MARSHALL 24 (1-2)

SEPT. 15, 2012

HUNTINGTON, W. VA. | JOAN C EDWARDS STADIUM (33,436)

-The Bobcats win at Marshall is Ohio's first win in Huntington since 1977.
 -Ohio has now won nine of its last 10 games dating back to last season.
 -With the win, Ohio improves to 31-19-6 all-time against the Herd.
 -Ohio's win over Marshall marks the first time since the 1979 and 1980 seasons that the Bobcats have posted back-to-back wins over the Herd.
 -Ohio improved to 2-0 on the road to start the season for the first time since 1976. -With the win over Marshall, Ohio has now opened the year 3-0 for the second straight season. The last time Ohio opened the season up with three straight wins in back-to-back seasons was in 1967 and 1968.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Ohio	0	17	0	10	27
MARSHALL	14	0	7	3	24

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	11:08	MARSHALL - KING, Jazz 3 yd pass from CATO, Rakeem (HAIG, Justin kick), 12-75 3:52
	06:46	MARSHALL - DOBSON, Aaron 5 yd pass from CATO, Rakeem (HAIG, Justin kick), 10-85 3:28
2nd	11:24	OHIO - HILL, Troy 6 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 16-68 5:52
	06:27	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 22 yd field goal, 11-75 3:09
	00:49	OHIO - FUTRELL, Tyler 4 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 13-96 3:51
3rd	05:20	MARSHALL - HOSKINS, Gator 14 yd pass from CATO, Rakeem (HAIG, Justin kick), 8-43 1:46
4th	14:13	MARSHALL - HAIG, Justin 37 yd field goal, 11-63 3:57
	10:43	OHIO - CLARK, Ryan 27 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 12-80 3:30
	01:37	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 38 yd field goal, 7-10 3:09

	OHIO	MARSHALL
FIRST DOWNS	26	26
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	52-199	22-59
PASSING YDS (NET)	200	432
Passes Att-Comp-Int	35-20-0	65-44-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	87-399	87-491
Fumble Returns-Yards	2-53	1-3
Punt Returns-Yards	2-12	3-24
Kickoff Returns-Yards	5-118	4-74
Interception Returns-Yards	1-8	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	6-43.0	5-43.4
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	3-2
Penalties-Yards	4-33	5-35
Possession Time	31:26	28:34
Third-Down Conversions	10 of 20	11 of 20
Fourth-Down Conversions	1 of 1	1 of 1
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	4-4	3-3
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-12	0-0

RUSHING: Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 30-102; BOYKIN, Ryan 8-45; TETTLETON, T 7-35; PATTERSON, Daz' 4-30; Team 3-minus 13. MARSHALL-CATO, Rakeem 6-32; VAN, Travon 13-15; WATSON, Remi 2-10; BUTLER, Steward 1-2.

PASSING: Ohio-TETTLETON, T 20-35-0-200. MARSHALL-CATO, Rakeem 44-65-1-432.

RECEIVING: Ohio-FUTRELL, Tyler 5-42; CLARK, Ryan 4-50; FOSTER, Donte 3-30; BUSSEY, Bakari 2-26; HILL, Troy 2-12; WATERS, Matt 1-22; THOMPSON, Jorda 1-9; COCHRAN, Chase 1-7; PATTERSON, Daz' 1-2. MARSHALL-SHULER, Tommy 13-121; DOBSON, Aaron 11-94; WILSON, A. 6-59; HOSKINS, Gator 4-36; VAN, Travon 3-55; EVANS, D. 2-13; FROHNAPFEL, E. 1-17; SNIPES-BOOKER 1-17; CRAWFORD, C.J. 1-14; WATSON, Remi 1-3; KING, Jazz 1-3.

INTERCEPTIONS: Ohio-WOSELEY, Jelani 1-8. MARSHALL-None.

FUMBLES: Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 1-1. MARSHALL-CATO, Rakeem 1-1; WILSON, A. 1-1; VAN, Travon 1-0.

Ohio (3-0) vs. MARSHALL (1-2)

Date: Sep 15, 2012 • Site: Huntington, W.Va. • Stadium: Joan C. Edwards
 Attendance: 33436

OHIO 44 (4-0) vs NORFOLK STATE 10 (2-2)

SEPT. 22, 2012

ATHENS, OHIO | PEDEN STADIUM (23,673)

-With the win, the Bobcats remain undefeated. Ohio is the only undefeated team in the Mid-American Conference this season.
 -Ohio's win over Norfolk State marks the first time since 1976 in which the Bobcats have opened a season 4-0.
 -The Bobcats 4-0 start to the season marks the 16th time in school history in which Ohio has opened up a year with four straight wins.
 -Ohio has won four straight games inside Peden Stadium dating back to last season.
 -The Bobcats win over Norfolk State marks gives Ohio 10 wins in its last 11 games dating back to last season.
 -Ohio has outscored its opponent 95-34 in its first two home games this season.
 -The attendance of 23,673 is the sixth largest crowd in Peden Stadium history.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Norfolk State	0	0	0	10	10
Ohio	24	10	10	0	44

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	12:37	OHIO - FOSTER, Donte 10 yd pass from VICK, Derrius (WELLER, Matt kick), 5-22 2:17
	09:32	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 24 yd pass from VICK, Derrius (WELLER, Matt kick), 3-30 1:23
	06:29	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 49 yd field goal, 6-10 2:55
	00:15	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 2 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 4-71 1:22
2nd	07:32	OHIO - THOMPSON, Jorda 15 yd pass from VICK, Derrius (WELLER, Matt kick), 5-49 2:28
	00:02	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 40 yd field goal, 6-42 2:18
3rd	06:50	OHIO - FOSTER, Donte 13 yd pass from VICK, Derrius (WELLER, Matt kick), 1-13 0:07
	05:02	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 31 yd field goal, 4-3 1:09
4th	04:28	NSU - MAYNES,Randy 7 yd run (GOLDBERG,E. kick), 13-80 6:11
	00:33	NSU - GOLDBERG,E. 42 yd field goal, 4-7 1:52

	NSU	OHIO
FIRST DOWNS	14	20
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	35-110	48-179
PASSING YDS (NET)	131	199
Passes Att-Comp-Int	32-16-2	20-14-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	67-241	68-378
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	1-9
Punt Returns-Yards	2--4	5-50
Kickoff Returns-Yards	4-76	2-42
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	2-20
Punts (Number-Avg)	6-29.8	4-27.8
Fumbles-Lost	3-3	0-0
Penalties-Yards	11-96	7-60
Possession Time	27:53	32:07
Third-Down Conversions	7 of 16	3 of 15
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 1	1 of 1
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	1-1	5-8
Sacks By: Number-Yards	1-2	1-4

RUSHING: Norfolk State-HEDGEMAN,Takeem 10-39; MAYNES,Randy 8-32; RIDDICK,Brendon 9-19; FLORES,Nico 5-13; JOHNSON,Keith 1-5; BASMAGIAN,Jake 1-4; ROBERTS,Calvin 1-minus 2. Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 25-109; HAMMONDS, Kyle 6-31; PATTERSON, Daz' 9-23; VICK, Derrius 5-14; PALERMO, Brian 3-2.

PASSING: Norfolk State-FLORES,Nico 8-17-2-63; BASMAGIAN,Jake 8-14-0-68; SHADDIX,Dylan 0-1-0-0. Ohio-VICK, Derrius 14-20-0-199.

RECEIVING: Norfolk State-DEMPS,Derrick 6-45; BOYCE,Xavier 3-35; HAWKINS,Joseph 3-25; WHITE,Tevin 1-18; JOHNSON,Keith 1-4; SMITH,Conley 1-4; RIDDICK,Brendon 1-0. Ohio-FOSTER, Donte 5-69; THOMPSON, Jorda 2-19; BUSSEY, Bakari 2-10; ROBACK, Derek 1-46; BLANKENSHIP, Be 1-24; HILL, Troy 1-20; CLARK, Ryan 1-9; COCHRAN, Chase 1-2.

INTERCEPTIONS: Norfolk State-None. Ohio-BASS, Devin 1-20; INGOL, Thad 1-0.

FUMBLES: Norfolk State-RIDDICK,Brendon 1-1; DEMPS,Derrick 1-1; MAYNES,Randy 1-1. Ohio-None.

Norfolk State (2-2) vs. Ohio (4-0)

Date: Sep 22, 2012 • Site: Athens, Ohio • Stadium: Peden Stadium
 Attendance: 23673



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

GAME-BY-GAME RECAPS

OHIO 37 (5-0; 1-0) at MASSACHUSETTS 34 (0-5; 0-2)

SEPT. 29, 2012

FOXBOROUGH, MASS. | GILLETTE STADIUM (8,321)

-Ohio improved to 5-0 for the first time since 1968. The Bobcats are the only undefeated team in the Mid-American Conference.

-The Bobcats' 5-0 start marks just the eighth time in school history in which Ohio has opened up the year with five straight wins.

-Junior running back Beau Blankenship tied former Bobcat running back Bill Gary's school record of 43 carries.

-Blankenship rushed for 148 yards in the first half. He would go on to finish the game with 269 yards, which is the third highest single game total in school history.

-Place kicker Matt Weller scored 13 points Saturday and in the process passed former NIU running back Garrett Wolfe for fifth on the Mid-American Conference all-time scoring list.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Ohio	3	17	0	17	37
Massachusetts	10	7	10	7	34

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	09:54	UMASS - A. Williams 27 yd pass from M. Wegzyn (B. Levengood kick), 12-82 3:52
	04:26	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 27 yd field goal, 16-73 5:28
	01:54	UMASS - B. Lucas 30 yd field goal, 10-62 2:32
2nd	11:47	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 24 yd field goal, 13-70 5:07
	05:40	OHIO - HILL, Troy 1 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 8-79 3:18
	03:13	UMASS - A. Williams 50 yd pass from M. Wegzyn (B. Levengood kick), 7-84 2:27
	01:16	OHIO - COCHRAN, Chase 41 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 7-75 1:57
3rd	10:54	UMASS - D. Walker 26 yd pass from M. Wegzyn (B. Levengood kick), 12-81 4:06
	03:15	UMASS - B. Lucas 23 yd field goal, 13-74 5:51
4th	13:48	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 5 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 11-78 4:27
	09:35	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 26 yd field goal, 7-36 2:17
	06:13	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 40 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 4-70 1:38
	03:23	UMASS - A. Williams 11 yd pass from M. Wegzyn (B. Levengood kick), 7-67 2:50

	OHIO	UMASS
FIRST DOWNS	24	28
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	52-274	33-138
PASSING YDS (NET)	229	373
Passes Att-Comp-Int	27-15-0	51-27-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	79-503	84-511
Fumble Returns-Yards	1-13	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	2-28	1-3
Kickoff Returns-Yards	6-99	6-129
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	3-46.3	4-42.8
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-1
Penalties-Yards	5-47	8-73
Possession Time	29:50	30:10
Third-Down Conversions	8 of 17	10 of 19
Fourth-Down Conversions	2 of 2	2 of 3
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	5-6	3-3
Sacks By: Number-Yards	1-3	0-0

RUSHING: Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 43-269; PATTERSON, Daz' 1-7; Team 1-0; TETTLETON, T 7-minus 2. Massachusetts-M. Cox 22-80; M. Wegzyn 7-36; J. Broadnax 4-22.

PASSING: Ohio-TETTLETON, T 15-27-0-229. Massachusetts-M. Wegzyn 27-51-0-373.

RECEIVING: Ohio-FOSTER, Donte 4-55; WATERS, Matt 2-38; BUSSEY, Bakari 2-28; CLARK, Ryan 2-28; THOMPSON, Jorda 2-27; COCHRAN, Chase 1-41; BLANKENSHIP, Be 1-11; HILL, Troy 1-1. Massachusetts-D. Walker 11-162; A. Williams 7-127; R. Blanchflower 5-80; T. Sharpe 2-0; J. Broadnax 1-6; E. Long 1-minus 2.

INTERCEPTIONS: Ohio-None. Massachusetts-None.

FUMBLES: Ohio-None. Massachusetts-M. Cox 1-1; T. Dudley-Giles 1-0.

Ohio (5-0,1-0) vs. Massachusetts (0-5,0-2)
Date: Sep 29, 2012 • Site: Foxborough, Mass. • Stadium: Gillette Stadium
Attendance: 8321

OHIO 37 (6-0; 2-0) vs. BUFFALO 31 (1-4; 0-2)

OCT. 6, 2012

ATHENS, OHIO | PEDEN STADIUM (20,044)

-Ohio's win over Buffalo improved the Bobcats' record to 6-0 on the year as they became the first team at the FBS level to become bowl eligible.

-Ohio's win over Buffalo marks the fourth straight year and the sixth time overall in the Frank Solich era in which the Cats have been bowl eligible.

-With the win, the Bobcats remain undefeated. Ohio is the only undefeated team in the Mid-American Conference this season.

-Ohio's win over Buffalo marks the first time since 1968 in which the Bobcats have opened a season 6-0.

-The Bobcats 6-0 start to the season marks the ninth time in school history in which Ohio has opened up a year with six straight wins.

-Ohio has won five straight games inside Peden Stadium dating back to last season.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Buffalo	14	0	10	7	31
Ohio	7	14	3	14	38

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	11:23	UB - CAMPBELL, Devin 3 yd run (CLARKE, Patrick kick), 10-75 3:37
	03:30	UB - HUGHES, Devon 10 yd pass from ZORDICH, Alex (CLARKE, Patrick kick), 14-93 5:22
	03:17	OHIO - PATTERSON, Daz' 100 yd kickoff return (WELLER, Matt kick)
2nd	11:18	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 14 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 1-14 0:05
	06:05	OHIO - FUTRELL, Tyler 15 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 1-15 0:07
3rd	12:35	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 45 yd field goal, 6-32 2:17
	11:23	UB - NEUTZ, Alex 55 yd pass from DENNISON, Alex (CLARKE, Patrick kick), 3-82 1:06
	03:55	UB - CLARKE, Patrick 30 yd field goal, 16-47 6:15
4th	14:56	OHIO - BOYKIN, Ryan 1 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 11-65 3:59
	05:56	OHIO - BOYKIN, Ryan 51 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 2-55 0:34
	00:08	UB - DENNISON, Alex 1 yd run (CLARKE, Patrick kick), 8-77 1:41

	UB	OHIO
FIRST DOWNS	30	16
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	56-313	36-149
PASSING YDS (NET)	188	184
Passes Att-Comp-Int	36-19-0	27-15-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	92-501	63-333
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	1-0	0-0
Kickoff Returns-Yards	4-83	5-149
Interception Returns-Yards	1-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	5-31.2	4-31.0
Fumbles-Lost	4-3	0-0
Penalties-Yards	9-110	8-89
Possession Time	35:29	24:31
Third-Down Conversions	10 of 19	6 of 13
Fourth-Down Conversions	1 of 2	0 of 2
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	4-4	3-4
Sacks By: Number-Yards	1-10	1-12

RUSHING: Buffalo-CAMPBELL, Devin 30-160; ZORDICH, Alex 19-110; HUGHES, Devon 1-17; DENNISON, Alex 4-13; GRASSMAN, Tyler 1-13; LICATA, Joe 1-0. Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 25-86; BOYKIN, Ryan 6-64; Team 1-1; TETTLETON, T 4-minus 2.

PASSING: Buffalo-ZORDICH, Alex 13-25-0-97; LICATA, Joe 5-10-0-36; DENNISON, Alex 1-1-0-55. Ohio-TETTLETON, T 14-26-1-183; WATERS, Matt 1-1-0-1.

RECEIVING: Buffalo-NEUTZ, Alex 4-77; HUGHES, Devon 4-19; DIXON, Cordero 3-37; JOHNSON, Rudy 3-19; GORDON, Jimmy 3-16; CAMPBELL, Devin 2-20. Ohio-BUSSEY, Bakari 8-77; HILL, Troy 3-38; WATERS, Matt 1-36; COCHRAN, Chase 1-17; FUTRELL, Tyler 1-15; EDMOND, Tim 1-1.

INTERCEPTIONS: Buffalo-MCGILL, Marcus 1-0. Ohio-None.

FUMBLES: Buffalo-NEUTZ, Alex 1-1; ZORDICH, Alex 1-1; CAMPBELL, Devin 1-0; BRIM, Derek 1-1. Ohio-None.

Buffalo (1-4,0-2) vs. Ohio (6-0,2-0)
Date: Oct 06, 2012 • Site: Athens, Ohio • Stadium: Peden Stadium
Attendance: 20044

Kickoff time: 12 pm • End of Game: 3:34 • Total elapsed time: 3:34
Officials: Referee: Greg Blum; Umpire: John Hanneke; Linesman: Chris Gamer;
Line judge: Brian Bollinger; Back judge: Todd Boyd; Field judge: Bob McElwee;
Side judge: Grady Smith; Scorer: Brett Compton;
Temperature: Mid 50s • Wind: WNW 7mph • Weather: Pleasant and crisp



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

GAME-BY-GAME RECAPS

OHIO 34 (7-0; 3-0) vs AKRON 28 (1-6; 0-3)

OCT. 13, 2012

ATHENS, OHIO | PEDEN STADIUM (25,542)

-Ohio's win over Akron marks the 'Cats' first 7-0 start since 1968.
 -The Bobcats' win over Akron marks just the seventh time in school history in which Ohio has opened a season 7-0.
 -With the win over the Zips, Ohio has won 13 of its last 14 games dating back to last season.
 -Ohio has a 20-7 record inside Peden Stadium since the start of the 2008 season.
 -With the win, Ohio improves to 3-0 in league play for the just the third time in the last 20 years.
 -The Bobcats have scored 30-points or more five times this season.
 -Ohio rushed for 252 yards, which marked the third time this season the Bobcats have surpassed 200 yards on the ground.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Akron	0	7	7	14	28
Ohio	14	6	14	0	34

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	11:57	OHIO - TETTLETON, T 39 yd pass from SMITH, Landon (WELLER, Matt kick), 8-65 3:03
	08:36	OHIO - FOSTER, Donte 13 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 4-53 1:48
2nd	02:54	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 44 yd field goal, 11-27 3:33
	00:44	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 29 yd field goal, 5-34 0:43
	00:16	AKRON - SMITH, L.T. 19 yd pass from WILLIAMS, Dalton (STEIN, Robert kick), 4-75 0:28
3rd	11:56	AKRON - WILLIAMS, Tyler 10 yd pass from WILLIAMS, Dalton (STEIN, Robert kick), 9-75 3:04
	03:26	OHIO - HILL, Troy 2 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 11-96 4:44
	00:37	OHIO - BOYKIN, Ryan 5 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 9-56 2:42
4th	08:48	AKRON - DILLARD, Jerrod 6 yd pass from WILLIAMS, Dalton (STEIN, Robert kick), 11-70 3:22
	01:55	AKRON - DILLARD, Jerrod 5 yd pass from WILLIAMS, Dalton (STEIN, Robert kick), 8-43 1:23

	AKRON	OHIO
FIRST DOWNS	26	29
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	33-158	53-252
PASSING YDS (NET)	298	189
Passes Att-Comp-Int	53-32-2	28-14-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	86-456	81-441
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	2-3	3-40
Kickoff Returns-Yards	2-24	2-41
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	2-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	5-38.6	4-45.5
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	7-55	4-40
Possession Time	26:54	33:06
Third-Down Conversions	9 of 18	3 of 14
Fourth-Down Conversions	1 of 3	2 of 4
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	4-4	4-4
Sacks By: Number-Yards	1-7	2-21

RUSHING: Akron-CHISHOLM, Jawon 28-177; HINES, Quentin 1-4; FRIESON, Dee 1-minus 4; WILLIAMS, Dalton 3-minus 19. Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 17-108; BOYKIN, Ryan 19-96; TETTLETON, T 12-65; VICK, Derrius 1-5; SMITH, Landon 1-0; PATTERSON, Daz' 1-minus 1; Team 2-minus 21.

PASSING: Akron-WILLIAMS, Dalton 32-53-2-298. Ohio-TETTLETON, T 13-27-0-150; SMITH, Landon 1-1-0-39.

RECEIVING: Akron-SCONIER, Keith 6-35; FRIESON, Dee 5-57; CHISHOLM, Jawon 5-55; SMITH, L.T. 4-33; DILLARD, Jerrod 3-32; SUEL, Marquelo 3-28; PRATT, Andrew 2-17; DAVIS, Imani 1-17; WILLIAMS, Tyler 1-10; HINES, Quentin 1-8; FORD, Bre' 1-6. Ohio-HILL, Troy 5-52; FOSTER, Donte 2-21; WATERS, Matt 2-17; ROBACK, Derek 2-9; TETTLETON, T 1-39; BUSSEY, Bakari 1-34; BLANKENSHIP, Be 1-17.

INTERCEPTIONS: Akron-None. Ohio-LEFTWICH, Octav 1-0; MOORE, Keith 1-0.

FUMBLES: Akron-None. Ohio-None.

Akron (1-6,0-3) vs. Ohio (7-0,3-0)
 Date: Oct 13, 2012 • Site: Athens, Ohio • Stadium: Peden Stadium
 Attendance: 25542

Kickoff time: 2 pm • End of Game: 5:20 • Total elapsed time: 3:20
 Officials: Referee: Mike Conlin; Umpire: David Parker; Linesman: Wendell Holmes;
 Line judge: Ric Hinkamper; Back judge: Jeff Latkiewicz; Field judge: Paul Sroka;
 Side judge: Jeff Servinski; Scorer: Brett Compton;
 Temperature: 65 • Wind: 10 mph • Weather:

MIAMI 23 (4-4; 3-1) vs No. 23 OHIO 20 (7-1; 3-1)

OCT. 27, 2012

OXFORD, OHIO | YAGER STADIUM (19,326)

-Ohio suffered its first loss since the 2011 Mid-American Conference Championship game where it fell 23-20 to Northern Illinois.
 -Junior running back Beau Blankenship became the eighth player in school history to rush for over 1,000 yards in a single season as he collected 74 yards on the ground against the RedHawks.
 -Senior kicker Matt Weller scored eight points today, connecting on a pair of field goals and two extra points, to move into second all-time on the Mid-American Conference career scoring list. Weller passed former Northern Illinois kicker Steve Azar.
 -Junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton logged his fourth career 300-yard passing game as he finished the game with 302 yards through the air.
 -Ohio was outgained 309-216 in the first half, but the defense responded in the second half, holding Miami to just 115 yards of total offense in the second half alone.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Ohio	7	7	3	3	20
Miami	13	7	0	3	23

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	09:05	MIAMI - PATTERSON, K. 40 yd field goal, 14-50 5:55
	06:33	MIAMI - HARWELL, Nick 54 yd pass from DYSSERT, Zac (PATTERSON, K. kick), 3-54 1:23
	02:55	MIAMI - PATTERSON, K. 32 yd field goal, 7-65 2:11
	00:48	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 5 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 6-75 2:07
2nd	12:00	MIAMI - WESTBROOK, J. 1 yd run (PATTERSON, K. kick), 4-57 1:57
	09:45	OHIO - TETTLETON, T 3 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 9-71 2:15
3rd	12:03	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 45 yd field goal, 7-41 2:57
4th	04:41	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 38 yd field goal, 9-41 4:09
	01:24	MIAMI - PATTERSON, K. 31 yd field goal, 8-59 3:17

	OHIO	MIAMI
FIRST DOWNS	24	19
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	43-162	33-113
PASSING YDS (NET)	302	311
Passes Att-Comp-Int	39-23-0	36-21-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	82-464	69-424
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	4-27	0-0
Kickoff Returns-Yards	2-25	3-86
Interception Returns-Yards	1-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	8-39.1	7-40.1
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	5-58	1-5
Possession Time	29:12	30:39
Third-Down Conversions	4 of 15	6 of 17
Fourth-Down Conversions	1 of 1	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	3-4	3-4
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-5	6-44

RUSHING: Ohio-BOYKIN, Ryan 10-74; BLANKENSHIP, Be 16-74; TETTLETON, T 17-14. Miami-WESTBROOK, J. 16-65; TREADWELL, S. 9-42; DYSSERT, Zac 7-7; KUMMER, Drew 1-minus 1.

PASSING: Ohio-TETTLETON, T 23-38-0-302; Team 0-1-0-0. Miami-DYSSERT, Zac 21-36-1-311.

RECEIVING: Ohio-FOSTER, Donte 7-59; SMITH, Landon 3-62; COCHRAN, Chase 2-60; WATERS, Matt 2-38; ROBACK, Derek 2-28; FUTRELL, Tyler 2-24; BLANKENSHIP, Be 2-17; BUSSEY, Bakari 2-11; BOYKIN, Ryan 1-3. Miami-HARWELL, Nick 8-138; CRUSE, Andy 5-24; SCOTT, Dawan 4-94; MARCK, Steve 2-32; SWIFT, Luke 1-14; WHITE, Dustin 1-9.

INTERCEPTIONS: Ohio-CARPENTER, Nate 1-0. Miami-None.

FUMBLES: Ohio-None. Miami-None.

Ohio (7-1,3-1) vs. Miami (4-4,3-1)
 Date: Oct 27, 2012 • Site: Oxford, Ohio • Stadium: Yager
 Attendance: 19326

Kickoff time: 3:37 pm • End of Game: 6:50 pm • Total elapsed time: 3:13
 Officials: Referee: Tom McCabe; Umpire: Mark Shupe; Linesman: Gus Golembieski;
 Line judge: Mike Maisner; Back judge: Reginald Berry; Field judge: Kyle DeBuse;
 Side judge: Matt Kukar;
 Temperature: 53 • Wind: N 18 mph • Weather: mostly cloudy



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

GAME-BY-GAME RECAPS

OHIO 45 (8-1; 4-1) vs EASTERN MICHIGAN 14 (1-6; 0-3)

NOV. 1, 2012

ATHENS, OHIO | PEDEN STADIUM (16,789)

- The Bobcats are 9-1 in their last 10 weekday games dating back to 2009.
- Ohio improves to 5-0 at home this season.
- The Bobcats have a 21-7 record inside Peden Stadium since the start of the 2008 season. Ohio has outscored its opponents 212-107 in home games this season.
- Ohio outgained Eastern Michigan 559-305. The Bobcats' 500-yard plus effort was Ohio's second-largest offensive output of the season.
- Junior wide receiver Donte Foster surpassed his previous career-high for receiving yards in the first half as he tallied 76 yards receiving. Foster finished the game with 164 receiving yards.
- Junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton's 79-yard touchdown pass to Foster was the Bobcats' longest play from scrimmage of the year.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Eastern Michigan	7	7	0	0	14
Ohio	7	17	7	14	45

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	09:30	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 2 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 6-78 2:30
	04:04	EMU - BRUMFIELD, Ryan 17 yd pass from BENZ, Tyler (MULDER, Dylan kick), 4-28 1:37
2nd	11:41	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 25 yd field goal, 18-64 7:17
	08:08	OHIO - COCHRAN, Chase 7 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 5-61 2:17
	02:08	EMU - BRUMFIELD, Ryan 3 yd run (MULDER, Dylan kick), 6-52 2:31
	00:11	OHIO - FOSTER, Donte 19 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 7-65 0:44
3rd	02:13	OHIO - FOSTER, Donte 79 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 3-99 1:11
4th	05:40	OHIO - BOYKIN, Ryan 13 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 5-44 2:10
	01:33	OHIO - PATTERSON, Daz' 29 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 6-67 2:10

	EMU	OHIO
FIRST DOWNS	17	25
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	52-167	42-304
PASSING YDS (NET)	138	255
Passes Att-Comp-Int	21-9-1	28-19-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	73-305	70-559
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	1-3	3-66
Kickoff Returns-Yards	5-110	2-48
Interception Returns-Yards	1-0	1-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	7-42.9	3-35.7
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	8-85	4-33
Possession Time	33:00	27:00
Third-Down Conversions	6 of 17	8 of 12
Fourth-Down Conversions	2 of 2	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	2-3	5-5
Sacks By: Number-Yards	0-0	4-14

RUSHING: Eastern Michigan-HILL, Bronson 25-111; BRUMFIELD, Ryan 15-34; BENZ, Tyler 10-22; TEAM 1-0; SHERRER, D. 1-0. Ohio-BOYKIN, Ryan 18-128; BLANKENSHIP, Be 11-72; PATTERSON, Daz' 2-37; TETTLETON, T 7-32; VICK, Derrius 3-32; HAMMONDS, Kyle 1-3.

PASSING: Eastern Michigan-BENZ, Tyler 9-21-1-138. Ohio-TETTLETON, T 19-27-1-255; Team 0-1-0-0.

RECEIVING: Eastern Michigan-GILLET, Alex 3-42; RUSSELL, T. 2-26; BRUMFIELD, Ryan 2-23; SCOTT, Donald 1-33; HOSKINS, G 1-14. Ohio-FOSTER, Donte 7-164; FUTRELL, Tyler 4-17; BLANKENSHIP, Be 3-12; ROBACK, Derek 1-32; SMITH, Landon 1-14; BOYKIN, Ryan 1-8; COCHRAN, Chase 1-7; BUSSEY, Bakari 1-1.

INTERCEPTIONS: Eastern Michigan-HENDERSON, D 1-0. Ohio-MOORE, Keith 1-0.

FUMBLES: Eastern Michigan-None. Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 1-1.

Eastern Michigan (1-8,0-5) vs. Ohio (8-1,4-1)
Date: Nov 01, 2012 • Site: Athens, Ohio • Stadium: Peden Stadium
Attendance: 16789

Kickoff time: 6 pm • End of Game: 9:12 • Total elapsed time: 3:12
Officials: Referee: Don Willard; Umpire: Mike Stumberg; Linesman: Brian Matthew;
Line judge: Jeff Baur; Back judge: Tom Riepenhoff; Field judge: Tim Maguire;
Side judge: Ed Smith; Scorer: Brett Compton;
Temperature: Mid 40s • Wind: 20 mph • Weather: Partly cloudy

BOWLING GREEN 26 (7-3; 5-1) vs OHIO 14 (8-2; 4-2)

NOV. 7, 2012

ATHENS, OHIO | PEDEN STADIUM (19,122)

- The Bobcats' loss to Bowling Green was their first loss at home this season and their first setback at Peden Stadium since their contest against Ball State in 2011. The last time Ohio went undefeated at home was 1988.
- The Bobcats drop to 9-2 in weekday games dating back to 2009.
- The Bobcats have a 21-8 record inside Peden Stadium since the start of the 2008 season. Ohio has outscored its opponents 226-134 in home games this season.
- Quarterback Tyler Tettleton finished the game with 145 passing yards and became Ohio's all-time career leader with 5,475, passing former Bobcat Sammy Shon.
- Tettleton rushed in from five yards out to score the Bobcats' first touchdown of the game, logging his first 15th career rushing touchdown. He also threw a touchdown to Chase Cochran in the second half. He has accounted for 60 touchdowns in his collegiate career.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Bowling Green	0	19	0	7	2
Ohio	7	0	7	0	14

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	09:18	OHIO - TETTLETON, T 5 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 11-72 5:42
2nd	14:52	BGSU - SAMUEL, Anthon 15 yd run (STEIN, Stephen kick), 4-20 0:15
	07:34	BGSU - GALLON, Chris 55 yd pass from SCHILZ, Matt (STEIN, Stephen kick), 5-89 2:40
	01:46	BGSU - TATE, Tyler 35 yd field goal, 7-18 3:37
	00:18	BGSU - TEAM safety
3rd	06:54	OHIO - COCHRAN, Chase 3 yd pass from TETTLETON, T (WELLER, Matt kick), 14-95 5:24
4th	14:50	BGSU - SAMUEL, Anthon 4 yd run (STEIN, Stephen kick), 7-29 3:14

	BGSU	OHIO
FIRST DOWNS	13	22
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	36-197	44-99
PASSING YDS (NET)	91	145
Passes Att-Comp-Int	17-7-0	34-21-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	53-288	78-244
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	2-19	4-9
Kickoff Returns-Yards	4-74	5-127
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	6-50.5	6-26.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-0
Penalties-Yards	8-71	2-10
Possession Time	27:26	32:34
Third-Down Conversions	5 of 14	4 of 15
Fourth-Down Conversions	1 of 1	1 of 4
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	3-3	2-3
Sacks By: Number-Yards	4-40	0-0

RUSHING: Bowling Green-SAMUEL, Anthon 29-181; SCHILZ, Matt 3-13; PETTIGREW, John 2-5; TEAM 2-minus 2. Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 18-97; BOYKIN, Ryan 10-29; VENHAM, Grant 1-4; TETTLETON, T 14-minus 9; WELLER, Matt 1-minus 22.

PASSING: Bowling Green-SCHILZ, Matt 7-17-0-91. Ohio-TETTLETON, T 21-34-0-145.

RECEIVING: Bowling Green-HOPGOOD, Jordan 2-32; BURBRINK, Ryan 2-7; GALLON, Chris 1-55; SAMUEL, Anthon 1-5; SCHILZ, Matt 1-minus 8. Ohio-BUSSEY, Bakari 6-39; FOSTER, Donte 4-31; BLANKENSHIP, Be 3-17; COCHRAN, Chase 3-16; CLARK, Ryan 2-16; WATERS, Matt 1-15; ROBACK, Derek 1-8; BOYKIN, Ryan 1-3.

INTERCEPTIONS: Bowling Green-None. Ohio-None.

FUMBLES: Bowling Green-None. Ohio-CLARK, Ryan 1-0; PATTERSON, Daz' 1-0.

Bowling Green (7-3,5-1) vs. Ohio (8-2,4-2)
Date: Nov 07, 2012 • Site: Athens, Ohio • Stadium: Peden Stadium
Attendance: 19122

Kickoff time: 8 pm • End of Game: 11:13 • Total elapsed time: 3:13
Officials: Referee: Mike Conlin; Umpire: Tony Smith; Linesman: Gus Golembiewski;
Line judge: Ric Hinkamper; Back judge: Bob Stinson; Field judge: Dennis Jackson;
Side judge: Jeff Servinski; Scorer: Brett Compton;
Temperature: 47 deg • Wind: 4 mph • Weather: Brisk and clear



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

GAME-BY-GAME RECAPS

BALL STATE (8-3; 5-2) 52 vs OHIO 27 (8-3; 4-3)

NOV. 14, 2012

MUNCIE, IND. | SCHEUMANN STADIUM (10,097)

KENT STATE (11-1; 8-0) 28 vs OHIO 6 (8-4; 4-4)

NOV. 23, 2012

KENT, OHIO | DIX STADIUM (18,230)

-The Bobcats drop to 9-3 in weekday games dating back to 2009.
 -Ohio's midweek matchup with Ball State was their third midweek game of the season
 -Running back Beau Blankenship rushed for a team-high 161 yards. He has now surpassed 100 yards rushing in eight games during his career. Blankenship has rushed for over 100 yards in seven games this season.
 -Blankenship finished the game with a career-high three touchdowns. He becomes the first running back since Calvin McRae to rush for three touchdowns in a single game.
 -Junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton opened the game by completing his first 12 passes. Tettleton finished the game by going 22-of-30 for 236 yards. With his 22 completions, Tettleton became the all-time leader in career completions.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Ohio	3	14	7	3	27
Ball State	7	14	10	21	52

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	06:55	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 47 yd field goal, 12-52 5:58
	02:07	BSU - MABON, KeVonn 13 yd pass from WENNING, Keith (SCHOTT, Steven kick), 10-75 4:48
2nd	13:50	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 1 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 7-62 3:10
	12:00	BSU - SNEAD, Willie 42 yd pass from WENNING, Keith (SCHOTT, Steven kick), 5-75 1:50
	10:41	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 2 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 3-70 1:13
	02:17	BSU - PAGE, Kelly 7 yd run (SCHOTT, Steven kick), 11-80 3:24
3rd	12:45	OHIO - BLANKENSHIP, Be 58 yd run (WELLER, Matt kick), 5-76 2:10
	12:05	BSU - FAKES, Zane 3 yd pass from PAGE, Kelly (SCHOTT, Steven kick), 2-71 0:35
	01:52	BSU - SCHOTT, Steven 38 yd field goal, 10-59 3:49
4th	12:15	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 34 yd field goal, 11-54 4:32
	11:57	BSU - BANKS, Horacio 23 yd run (SCHOTT, Steven kick), 1-23 0:09
	08:14	BSU - FAKES, Zane 13 yd pass from PAGE, Kelly (SCHOTT, Steven kick), 6-65 2:28
	02:18	BSU - EDWARDS, Jahwan 28 yd run (SCHOTT, Steven kick), 8-77 4:32

	OHIO	BSU
FIRST DOWNS	20	29
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	40-231	39-357
PASSING YDS (NET)	252	231
Passes Att-Comp-Int	34-24-1	28-22-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	74-483	67-588
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	1-5
Kickoff Returns-Yards	9-188	4-124
Interception Returns-Yards	0-0	1-5
Punts (Number-Avg)	4-42.0	3-32.7
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	5-50	1-10
Possession Time	32:25	27:35
Third-Down Conversions	8 of 17	5 of 9
Fourth-Down Conversions	1 of 1	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	3-5	4-4
Sacks By: Number-Yards	0-0	4-22

RUSHING: Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 21-161; TETTLETON, T 14-47; PATTERSON, Daz' 4-21; VICK, Derrius 1-2.
 Ball State-EDWARDS, Jahwan 17-169; BANKS, Horacio 14-135; PAGE, Kelly 4-34; DONIGAN, Dwayne 3-15;
 WENNING, Keith 1-4.

PASSING: Ohio-TETTLETON, T 22-30-0-236; VICK, Derrius 2-4-1-16. Ball State-WENNING, Keith
 16-20-0-173; PAGE, Kelly 5-7-0-41; SMITH, Jamill 1-1-0-17.

RECEIVING: Ohio-FUTRELL, Tyler 5-59; BUSSEY, Bakari 5-25; COCHRAN, Chase 3-36; WATERS, Matt 3-29;
 FOSTER, Donte 3-11; PATTERSON, Daz' 2-74; TETTLETON, T 1-13; BLANKENSHIP, Be 1-5; CLARK, Ryan 1-0.
 Ball State-FAKES, Zane 7-58; SMITH, Jamill 5-36; SNEAD, Willie 3-54; MABON, KeVonn 3-44; RYAN,
 Connor 3-22; WENNING, Keith 1-17.

INTERCEPTIONS: Ohio-None. Ball State-COOPER, Quintin 1-5.

FUMBLES: Ohio-None. Ball State-None.

Ohio (8-3-0-4-3) vs. Ball State (8-3-0-5-2)
 Date: 11/14/12 • Site: Muncie, Ind. • Stadium: Scheumann Stadium
 Attendance: 10097

Kickoff time: 8:07 pm • End of Game: 11:27 • Total elapsed time: 3:20
 Officials: Referee: Ron Snodgrass; Umpire: Tim Owens; Linesman: Bruce Keeling;
 Line judge: Mike Sharp; Back judge: Jake Kemp; Field judge: Brad Horchem;
 Side judge: Richard Ames; Scorer: Brad Caudill;
 Temperature: 34 • Wind: ENE @ 5 • Weather: Mostly Cloudy

-The Bobcats' loss to Kent State was their fourth setback in the last five games.
 -Ohio outgained Kent State 170-158 in the first half, but was outgained for the game 377-339.
 -The Bobcats were held without a touchdown for the first time since Nov. 26, 2010 when it was defeated 28-6 at Kent State.
 -Junior Beau Blankenship rushed for a game-high 145 yards on the ground to become the Bobcats' single season all-time rusher, passing former Ohio running back Calvin McRae.
 -Blankenship finished the year with 1,500 rushing yards.
 Junior wide receiver Donte Foster caught a game and career-high 11 receptions. He finished the game with 100 yards receiving.
 -Foster's 100-yard receiving performance marked the second time this season in which he has tallied 100 yards receiving-or-more.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Ohio	3	3	0	0	
Kent State	21	0	0	7	28

Qtr	Time	Scoring play
1st	13:02	KENT - WOLLET, Luke 50 yd fumble recovery (CORTEZ, Freddy kick)
	06:11	KENT - DURHAM, Trayion 15 yd run (CORTEZ, Freddy kick), 3-60 1:13
	05:59	KENT - MALAUULU, C.J. 33 yd interception return (CORTEZ, Freddy kick)
	02:45	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 33 yd field goal, 9-59 3:14
2nd	00:15	OHIO - WELLER, Matt 41 yd field goal, 10-47 1:30
4th	11:44	KENT - ADEYEMI, Eric 24 yd pass from KEITH, Spencer (CORTEZ, Freddy kick), 6-50 2:09

	OHIO	ENT
FIRST DOWNS	22	15
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	50-107	38-207
PASSING YDS (NET)	232	170
Passes Att-Comp-Int	37-21-1	20-9-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	87-339	58-377
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	1-50
Punt Returns-Yards	2-9	1-8
Kickoff Returns-Yards	1-20	1-13
Interception Returns-Yards	1-0	1-33
Punts (Number-Avg)	9-41.1	8-38.9
Fumbles-Lost	4-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards	3-32	1-10
Possession Time	33:27	23:49
Third-Down Conversions	7 of 20	3 of 11
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 2	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	2-4	1-1
Sacks By: Number-Yards	0-0	8-80

RUSHING: Ohio-BLANKENSHIP, Be 29-145; PATTERSON, Daz' 2-7; FUTRELL, Tyler 1-minus 10; TETTLETON, T 18-minus 35. Kent State-DURHAM, Trayion 16-97; ARCHER, Dri 13-53; DURDEN, Julian 3-46; KEITH, Spencer 3-17; Team 3-minus 6.

PASSING: Ohio-TETTLETON, T 21-37-1-232. Kent State-KEITH, Spencer 9-20-1-170.

RECEIVING: Ohio-FOSTER, Donte 11-100; FUTRELL, Tyler 3-62; WATERS, Matt 2-30; BUSSEY, Bakari 2-22;
 COCHRAN, Chase 1-8; CLARK, Ryan 1-8; BLANKENSHIP, Be 1-2. Kent State-ADEYEMI, Eric 3-74; ARCHER, Dri 2-58; HUMPHREY, Chris 1-15; ERJAVEC, Tim 1-13; HURDLE, Matthew 1-6; PAYTON, Kyle 1-4.

INTERCEPTIONS: Ohio-WOSELEY, Jelani 1-0. Kent State-MALAUULU, C.J. 1-33.

FUMBLES: Ohio-TETTLETON, T 3-0; BLANKENSHIP, Be 1-1. Kent State-ARCHER, Dri 1-1.

Ohio (8-4-4-4) vs. Kent State (11-1,8-0)
 Date: Nov 23, 2012 • Site: Kent, OH • Stadium: Dix Stadium
 Attendance: 18230

Kickoff time: 11:02 am • End of Game: 2:10 pm • Total elapsed time: 3:08
 Officials: Referee: Don Willard; Umpire: Mike Stumberg; Linesman: Brian Matthew;
 Line judge: Jeff Baur; Back judge: Bob Stinson; Field judge: Tim Maguire;
 Side judge: Ed Smith;
 Temperature: 51 • Wind: WSW 15 • Weather: Mostly sunny



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

2012 GAME-BY-GAME BIOS

#2 Jamil Shaw

Junior, CB

Alexandria, Va.

Date	Opponent	Tackles		
		Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	0	0	0
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	0	0	0
9-15	Marshall	0	0	0
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	0	0	0
9-29	at Massachusetts	0	0	0
10-6	BUFFALO	0	0	0
10-13	AKRON	0	0	0
10-27	at Miami	0	0	0
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	0	0	0
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	0	0	0
11-14	at Ball State	0	0	0
11-23	at Kent State	0	0	0
Season:		0	0	0
Career:		14	4	18

#3 Donte Foster

Junior, WR

Guthrie, Okla.

Date	Opponent	Rec.	Yards	TD
9-1	at Penn State	5	32	1
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	5	57	1
9-15	at Marshall	3	30	0
9-22	NORFOLK ST.	5	69	2
9-29	at Massachusetts	0	0	0
10-6	BUFFALO	0	0	0
10-13	AKRON	2	21	1
10-7	at Miami	7	59	0
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	7	164	2
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	4	31	0
11-14	at Ball State	3	11	0
11-23	at Kent State	11	100	0
Season:		52	574	7
Career:		91	1,077	13

#4 Tyler Tettleton

Junior, QB

Norman, Okla.

Date	Opponent	C	A	Yards	TD
9-1	at Penn State	31	41	324	2
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	15	23	257	2
9-15	at Marshall	20	35	200	3
9-22	NORFOLK ST.	0	0	0	0
9-29	at Massachusetts	15	27	229	2
10-6	BUFFALO	14	26	183	1
10-13	AKRON	13	27	150	2
10-27	at Miami	23	38	302	0

11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	19	27	255	3
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	21	34	145	1
11-14	at Ball State	22	30	236	0
11-23	at Kent State	21	37	232	0
Season:		214	308	2,313	16
Career:		490	746	5,943	44

#9 Derek Roback

Sophomore, TE

Waverly, Ohio

Date	Opponent	Rec.	Yards	TD
9-1	at Penn State	0	0	0
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	0	0	0
9-15	at Marshall	0	0	0
9-22	NORFOLK ST.	0	0	0
9-29	at Massachusetts	0	0	0
10-6	BUFFALO	0	0	0
10-13	AKRON	2	9	0
10-27	at Miami	0	0	0
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	1	32	0
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	1	8	0
11-14	at Ball State	0	0	0
11-23	at Kent State	0	0	0
Season:		4	49	0
Career:		10	105	1

#9 Josh Kristoff

Sophomore, SS

Pickerington, Ohio

Date	Opponent	Tackles		
		Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	1	1	2
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	2	2	4
9-15	Marshall	2	4	6
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	2	1	3
9-29	at Massachusetts	1	3	4
10-6	BUFFALO	3	4	7
10-13	AKRON	3	1	4
10-27	at Miami	5	2	7
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	2	0	2
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	2	2	4
11-14	at Ball State	6	4	10
11-23	at Kent State	2	1	3
Season:		31	25	56
Career:		43	55	108

#13 Gerald Moore

Senior, FS

Mitchellville, Md.

Date	Opponent	Tackles		
		Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	5	1	6
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	3	1	4
9-15	Marshall	4	3	7
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	0	2	2

9-29	at Massachusetts	1	5	6
10-6	BUFFALO	0	0	0
10-13	AKRON	0	0	0
10-27	at Miami	1	0	1
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	5	2	7
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	2	4	6
11-14	at Ball State	1	0	1
11-23	at Kent State	0	1	1
Season:		22	19	41
Career:		102	91	193

#16 Ryan Clark

Senior, WR

Macedonia, Ohio

Date	Opponent	Rec.	Yards	TD
9-1	at Penn State	4	54	0
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	1	10	0
9-15	at Marshall	4	50	1
9-22	NORFOLK ST.	1	9	0
9-29	at Massachusetts	2	28	0
10-6	BUFFALO	0	0	0
10-13	AKRON	0	0	0
10-27	at Miami	0	0	0
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	0	0	0
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	2	16	0
11-14	at Ball State	1	0	0
11-23	at Kent State	1	8	0
Season:		16	175	1
Career:		16	175	1

#17 Bakari Bussey

Senior, WR

West Chester, Ohio

Date	Opponent	Rec.	Yards	TD
9-1	at Penn State	3	11	0
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	3	29	0
9-15	at Marshall	2	26	0
9-22	NORFOLK ST.	2	10	0
9-29	at Massachusetts	2	28	0
10-6	BUFFALO	8	77	0
10-13	AKRON	1	34	0
10-27	at Miami	2	11	0
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	0	0	0
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	6	39	0
11-14	at Ball State	5	25	0
11-23	at Kent State	2	22	0
Season:		36	312	0
Career:		56	547	1



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

2012 GAME-BY-GAME BIOS

#19 Mario Dovell

Junior, WR
Columbus, Ohio

Date	Opponent	Rec.	Yards	TD
9-1	at Penn State	3	29	0
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	0	0	0
9-15	at Marshall	0	0	0
9-22	NORFOLK ST.	0	0	0
9-29	at Massachusetts	0	0	0
10-6	BUFFALO	0	0	0
10-13	AKRON	0	0	0
10-27	at Miami	0	0	0
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	0	0	0
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	0	0	0
11-14	at Ball State	0	0	0
11-23	at Kent State	0	0	0
Season:		3	29	0
Career:		15	212	0

#20 Ryan Boykin

Junior, RB
Woodstock, Ga.

Date	Opponent	Rush	Yards	TD
9-1	at Penn State	3	9	0
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	0	0	0
9-15	at Marshall	8	46	0
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	0	0	0
9-29	at Massachusetts	0	0	0
10-6	BUFFALO	6	64	2
10-13	AKRON	19	99	1
10-27	at Miami	10	74	0
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	18	128	1
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	10	29	0
11-14	at Ball State	0	0	0
11-23	at Kent State	0	0	0
Season:		74	448	4
Career:		219	1,096	8

#22 Beau Blankenship

Junior, RB
Norman, Okla.

Date	Opponent	Rush	Yards	TD
9-1	at Penn State	31	109	0
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	27	174	2
9-15	at Marshall	30	107	0
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	25	112	1
9-29	at Massachusetts	43	269	2
10-6	BUFFALO	25	88	1
10-13	AKRON	17	108	0
10-27	at Miami	16	74	1
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	11	72	1
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	18	97	0
11-14	at Ball State	21	161	3
11-23	at Kent State	29	145	0
Season:		293	1,500	11
Career:		386	1,962	15

#25 Thad Ingol

Sophomore, SS/FS
Barberton, Ohio

		Tackles		
Date	Opponent	Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	1	1	2
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	2	0	2
9-15	Marshall	0	1	1
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	0	0	0
9-29	at Massachusetts	4	4	8
10-6	BUFFALO	4	5	9
10-13	AKRON	2	0	2
10-27	at Miami	0	0	0
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	0	0	0
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	1	0	1
11-14	at Ball State	0	0	0
11-23	at Kent State	3	0	3
Season:		17	11	28
Career:		24	21	46

#26 Mose Denton

Senior, SLB
Lakewood, Ca.

		Tackles		
Date	Opponent	Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	1	0	1
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	0	1	1
9-15	Marshall	2	2	4
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	2	5	7
9-29	at Massachusetts	2	1	3
10-6	BUFFALO	1	0	1
10-13	AKRON	1	0	1
10-27	at Miami	1	0	1
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	0	0	0
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	0	0	0
11-14	at Ball State	0	0	0
11-23	at Kent State	0	0	0
Season:		10	9	19
Career:		15	18	33

#34 Jelani Wosely

Senior, LB
Staten Island, N.Y.

		Tackles		
Date	Opponent	Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	0	2	2
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	1	2	3
9-15	Marshall	2	1	3
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	1	1	2
9-29	at Massachusetts	2	4	6
10-6	BUFFALO	2	3	5
10-13	AKRON	8	6	14
10-27	at Miami	3	1	4
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	1	3	4
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	1	3	4
11-14	at Ball State	1	2	3

11-23 at Kent State

Season:	22	28	47
Career:	52	73	122

#35 Nathan Carpenter

Sophomore, LB
Lancaster, Ohio

		Tackles		
Date	Opponent	Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	0	0	0
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	0	1	1
9-15	Marshall	3	3	6
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	2	1	3
9-29	at Massachusetts	3	4	7
10-6	BUFFALO	4	0	4
10-13	AKRON	5	2	7
10-27	at Miami	3	2	5
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	3	1	4
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	1	0	1
11-14	at Ball State	2	2	4
11-23	at Kent State	5	1	6
Season:		31	17	48
Career:		60	45	101

#38 Keith Moore

Junior, LB
Grove City, Ohio

		Tackles		
Date	Opponent	Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	7	0	7
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	0	9	9
9-15	Marshall	4	4	8
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	1	4	5
9-29	at Massachusetts	4	3	7
10-6	BUFFALO	10	6	16
10-13	AKRON	1	5	6
10-27	at Miami	5	5	10
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	2	6	8
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	1	3	4
11-14	at Ball State	2	4	6
11-23	at Kent State	2	1	3
Season:		39	50	89
Career:		505	68	126

#46 Alphonso Lewis

Senior, LB
Altoona, Pa.

		Tackles		
Date	Opponent	Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	2	2	4
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	1	3	4
9-15	Marshall	1	0	1
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	5	1	6
9-29	at Massachusetts	1	3	4
10-6	BUFFALO	5	5	10
10-13	AKRON	0	1	1
10-27	at Miami	2	2	4



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

2012 GAME-BY-GAME BIOS

11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	4	2	6
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	1	2	3
11-14	at Ball State	3	7	10
11-23	at Kent State	6	1	7

Season: 31 29 60
Career: 97 85 182

#49 Matt Weller
Senior, K
Twinsburg, Ohio

Date	Opponent	Md	At	Long
9-1	at Penn State	1	3	22
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	3	4	37
9-15	at Marshall	2	2	38
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	3	6	49
9-29	at Massachusetts	3	4	33
10-6	BUFFALO	1	1	45
10-13	AKRON	2	2	44
10-27	at Miami	2	2	45
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	1	1	25
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	0	0	0
11-14	at Ball State	2	3	47
11-23	at Kent State	2	2	41
Season:		22	30	49
Career:		79	107	52

#81 Tyler Futrell
Senior, WR
Altoona, Pa.

Date	Opponent	Rec.	Yards	TD
9-1	at Penn State	2	20	0
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	1	50	0
9-15	at Marshall	5	42	1
9-22	NORFOLK ST.	0	0	0
9-29	at Massachusetts	0	0	0
10-6	BUFFALO	1	15	1
10-13	AKRON	0	0	0
10-27	at Miami	2	24	0
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	4	17	0
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	0	0	0
11-14	at Ball State	5	59	0
11-23	at Kent State	3	62	0
Season:		23	289	2
Career:		29	379	7

#87 Landon Smith
Sophomore, WR
Girard, Ohio

Date	Opponent	Rec.	Yards	TD
9-1	at Penn State	3	82	1
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	1	40	1
9-15	at Marshall	0	0	0
9-22	NORFOLK ST.	0	0	0
9-29	at Massachusetts	0	0	0
10-6	BUFFALO	0	0	0
10-13	AKRON	0	0	0
10-27	at Miami	3	62	0

11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	1	14	0
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	0	0	0
11-14	at Ball State	0	0	0
11-23	at Kent State	0	0	0

Season: 8 198 3
Career: 11 222 6

#88 Jordan Thompson
Senior, TE
Rockford, Ohio

Date	Opponent	Rec.	Yards	TD
9-1	at Penn State	1	11	0
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	2	29	0
9-15	at Marshall	1	9	0
9-22	NORFOLK ST.	2	19	1
9-29	at Massachusetts	2	27	0
10-6	BUFFALO	0	0	0
10-13	AKRON	0	0	0
10-27	at Miami	0	0	0
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	0	0	0
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	0	0	0
11-14	at Ball State	0	0	0
11-23	at Kent State	0	0	0
Season:		8	95	3
Career:		60	665	6

#89 Carl Jones
Senior, DT
Arlington, Texas

		Tackles		
Date	Opponent	Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	0	3	3
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	2	4	6
9-15	Marshall	0	5	5
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	1	2	3
9-29	at Massachusetts	0	2	2
10-6	BUFFALO	4	2	6
10-13	AKRON	0	1	1
10-27	at Miami	3	2	5
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	2	8	10
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	2	4	6
11-14	at Ball State	2	2	4
11-23	at Kent State	1	1	2
Season:		17	36	53
Career:		44	79	123

#90 Tremayne Scott
Senior, DE
Ocala, Fla.

		Tackles		
Date	Opponent	Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	2	3	5
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	0	1	1
9-15	Marshall	0	3	3
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	0	0	0
9-29	at Massachusetts	0	0	0

10-6	BUFFALO	0	0	0
10-13	AKRON	0	0	0
10-27	at Miami	0	0	0
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	0	0	0
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	0	0	0
11-14	at Ball State	0	0	0
11-23	at Kent State	0	0	0

Season: 2 7 9
Career: 36 54 90

#93 Neal Huynh
Senior, NG
Altoona, Pa.

		Tackles		
Date	Opponent	Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	0	0	0
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	0	2	2
9-15	Marshall	1	2	3
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	0	3	3
9-29	at Massachusetts	3	1	4
10-6	BUFFALO	0	2	2
10-13	AKRON	1	3	4
10-27	at Miami	1	1	2
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	1	1	2
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	2	1	3
11-14	at Ball State	0	1	1
11-23	at Kent State	0	0	0
Season:		9	17	26
Career:		37	64	99

#94 Corey Hasting
Senior, NG
Miamiville, Ohio

		Tackles		
Date	Opponent	Ua	A	Total
9-1	at Penn State	2	1	3
9-8	NEW MEXICO ST.	1	5	6
9-15	Marshall	0	3	3
9-22	NORFOLK STATE	0	5	5
9-29	at Massachusetts	2	2	4
10-6	BUFFALO	3	7	10
10-13	AKRON	0	3	3
10-27	at Miami	1	0	1
11-1	EASTERN MICHIGAN	4	1	5
11-7	BOWLING GREEN	2	4	6
11-14	at Ball State	1	2	3
11-23	at Kent State	0	2	2
Season:		16	33	49
Career:		33	67	100



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

Sun Bowl

December 31, 1962 • El Paso, Texas

Ohio	14
West Texas State	15

The Bobcats played in their first-ever bowl game on Dec. 31, 1962 when they faced West Texas State in the Sun Bowl. The Bobcats finished the regular season with an 8-2 overall record and a 5-1 conference record to finish second in the MAC.

After a scoreless first quarter, Ohio got on the board first on a 52-yard field goal by Jim McKee. West Texas State answered with a touchdown on a 13-yard halfback pass from Jerry Richardson to Jerry Don Logan, and the extra point gave the Buffs a 7-3 lead they carried into halftime.

The Ohio defense accounted for the next score when Skip Hoovler picked up a fumble at the nine-yard line and returned it 91 yards for a touchdown. The play still stands as the longest fumble return in Sun Bowl history and is tied for the fourth longest in any bowl game. Bob Babbitt completed a pass to Ken Smith for the two-point conversion to give Ohio an 11-7 lead heading into the fourth quarter. Hoovler went on to take Lineman of the Game honors.

The Bobcats pushed the lead to 14-7 on McKee's second field goal of the game, a 24-yarder. West Texas State scored late in the contest on a 32-yard touchdown pass from Dave Gibson to Richardson. Instead of tying the game with an extra point, the Buffs went for the win and converted the two-point conversion for the 15-14 victory.

McKee set a trio of Sun Bowl records in the game, connecting on two field goals in five attempts, including the 52-yarder. All three of McKee's misses in the game came from longer than 50 yards (51, 56, 53).

Scoring by Quarters

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Ohio	0	3	8	3	14
West Texas State	0	7	0	8	15

Scoring Summary

Q	Team	Play	Score
2	Ohio	Jim McKee 52-yard field goal	3-0
2	WTSU	Jerry Logan 13-yard pass from Jim Dawson (Hoot Gibson kick)	3-7
3	Ohio	Skip Hoovler 91-yard fumble return (Ken Smith pass from Bob Babbitt)	11-7
4	Ohio	Jim McKee 24-yard field goal	14-7
	WTSU	Jerry Richardson 32-yard pass from Jim Dawson (Jim Ostrander pass from Dawson)	14-15

Team Statistics

	WTSU	Ohio
FIRST DOWNS	18	14
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	37-343	25-167
PASSING YDS (NET)	105	157
Passes Att-Comp-Int	10-7-0	23-12-0
TOTAL OFFENSE YARDS	448	324
Fumbles-Lost	6-4	1-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	5-41.0	4-41.5
Penalties-Yards	11-97	4-40

Individual Statistical Leaders

Rushing: WTSU—Pete Pedro 14-105, Jim Dawson 7-76, Hoot Gibson 7-58, Russ Mundy 9-058; OHIO—Roger Merb 5-78, Ron Curtis 6-46, Jack Hite 7-23, Jim Albert 7-18, David Robinson 1-6.

Passing: WTSU—Jim Dawson 6-9-0-73, Hoot Gibson 1-1-0-32; OHIO—Bob Babbitt 12-23-0-157.

Receiving: WTSU—Jerry Richardson 3-60, Jim Ostrander 2-17, Woody Gilliland 1-15, Jerry Logan 1-13; OHIO—Jim Albert 5-69, Ron Curtis 2-25, David Hutter 2-27, John Trevis 2-22.

Tangerine Bowl

December 27, 1968 • Orlando, Fla.

Ohio	42
Richmond	48

Ohio completed a 10-0 regular season, winning the MAC title to earn a berth in the 1968 Tangerine Bowl. The Bobcats entered the contest scoring 37.6 points per game, which still stands as the school record.

The Ohio and Richmond offenses racked up a combined 91 points and 1,001 yards of total offense. The Spiders outgained the Bobcats 556-445.

Quarterback Cleve Bryant and end Todd Snyder, both of whom were first-team All-MAC picks, connected on a 48-yard touchdown pass on Ohio's first possession. Richmond scored the next 14 points, but the Bobcats tied the score on a seven-yard run by Bryant. The Spiders quickly reclaimed their advantage on a touchdown run by Joe Kellum and O'Brien's second touchdown toss of the day. Another touchdown pass from Bryant to Snyder made the score 28-21 at halftime.

The Ohio duo connected again on a 45-yard score to tie the game in the third quarter, but the Spiders were able to post back-to-back touchdowns to take the lead for good. Dave LeVeck scored to pull the Bobcats to within eight at 42-34. Richmond tallied what proved to be the game-winning touchdown on O'Brien's fourth touchdown pass.

Bryant would add his fourth touchdown pass in the game, a school record that is still in place today. A two-point conversion brought Ohio within seven with 1:53 left, but the Bobcats would get no closer.

Bryant completed 17-of-33 passes for 223 yards, while Snyder had 11 catches for 214 yards in the contest. Bryant was later inducted into the Citrus Bowl Hall of Fame in 1988.

Scoring by Quarters

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Ohio	7	14	13	8	42
Richmond	7	21	14	7	49

Scoring Summary

Q	Team	Play	Score
1	Ohio	Todd Snyder 48-yard pass from Cleve Bryant (Bill Pataki kick)	7-0
1	Rich.	Jim Livesay 24-yard pass from Buster O'Brien (Mike Dussault kick)	7-7
2	Rich.	Buster O'Brien 31-yard run (Mike Dussault kick)	7-14
2	Ohio	Cleve Bryant 7-yard run (Bill Pataki kick)	14-14
2	Rich.	Joe Kellum 1-yard run (Mike Dussault kick)	14-21
2	Rich.	Walker Gillette 5-yard pass from Buster O'Brien (Mike Dussault kick)	14-28
2	Ohio	Todd Snyder 2-yard pass from Cleve Bryant (Bill Pataki kick)	21-28
3	Ohio	Todd Snyder 45-yard pass from Cleve Bryant (Bill Pataki kick)	28-28
3	Rich.	Joe Kellum 4-yard run (Mike Dussault kick)	28-35
3	Rich.	Jim Crenshaw 12-yard pass from Buster O'Brien (Mike Dussault kick)	28-42
3	Ohio	Dave LeVeck 1-yard run (run failed)	34-42
4	Rich.	Jim Livesay 15-yard pass from Buster O'Brien (Mike Dussault kick)	34-49
4	Ohio	Bob Houmard 3-yard pass from Cleve Bryant (Dave LeVeck run)	42-49

Team Statistics

	Ohio	Richmond
FIRST DOWNS	22	32
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	43-176	32-109
PASSING YDS (NET)	269	447
Passes Att-Comp-Int	34-18-2	58-39-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	77-445	90-556
Punt Returns-Yards	1-10	0-0
Kickoff Returns-Yards	8-198	5-96
Interception Returns-Yards	1-3	2-10
Punts (Number-Avg)	4-28.2	5-34.6
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	0-0
Penalties-Yards	5-45	6-62

Individual Statistical Leaders

Rushing: OHIO—Dave LeVeck 20-82, Cleve Bryant 17-74, Bob Houmard 5-19, Harvey Mitchell 1-(-2); RICHMOND—Joe Kellum 15-36, Buster O'Brien 7-39, Jim Crenshaw 4-19, Pat Morris 2-7, Frank Olejack 2-4, Jerry Mauro 2-4.

Passing: OHIO—Cleve Bryant 17-33-2-223, Dave LeVeck 1-1-0-46; RICHMOND—Buster O'Brien 39-58-1-447.

Receiving: OHIO—Todd Snyder 11-214, Phil Swindell 3-28, Dave LeVeck 2-33, Bob Houmard 2-14; RICHMOND—Walker Gillette 20-242, Jim Livesay 10-127, Jim Crenshaw 4-31, Frank Olejack 2-18, Tommy England 1-10, Joe Kellum 1-9, Pat Morris 1-0.



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

GMAC Bowl

Jan. 7, 2007 • Mobile, Ala.

Ohio	7
Southern Mississippi	28

The Bobcats appearance in the 2007 GMAC Bowl was the program's first bowl game since 1968. Ohio also reached milestones with a school-record seven MAC wins and its first MAC East Division championship.

Kalvin McRae finished the game with 37 yards on 10 carries, while quarterback Austen Everson completed 14-of his career-high 34 pass attempts for 175 yards and a touchdown. Scott Mayle caught four passes for 56 yards, both team highs. Tight end Thomas Christy saved his best game for his last with two catches for 43 yards and a touchdown, all career highs. The senior linebacking trio of Tyler Russ, Matt Muncy and Michael Graham led the Bobcat defense with nine, six and six tackles, respectively. Senior cornerback T.J. Wright recorded an interception for the Bobcats.

All 21 points in the first half were scored in the final nine minutes of the second quarter. The Golden Eagles scored the first points of the game on a 43-yard run by Tory Harrison. Southern Miss made it 14-0 on its next possession with a two-yard touchdown run by Damion Fletcher with 3:03 left in the half. The Golden Eagles' defense provided the third score of the night when James Denley stepped in front of a pass by Brad Bower and returned it 18 yards for the score to give USM a 21-0 lead.

Fletcher gave the Golden Eagles a 28-0 lead with his second touchdown of the game on the first drive of the second half. The Bobcats scored the games' final points with 9:34 left in the fourth quarter on a 13-yard touchdown pass from Everson to Christy.

Score by Quarters

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
OHIO	0	0	0	7	7
Southern Mississippi	0	21	7	0	28

Scoring Summary

Q	Time	Play	Score
2	8:33	USM Tory Harrison 43-yard run (Darren McCaleb kick)	0-7
		8 plays, 90 yards, 3:30	
2	3:03	USM Damion Fletcher 2-yard run (Darren McCaleb kick)	0-14
		9 plays, 60 yards, 4:00	
2	1:13	USM James Denley 18-yard interception return (Darren McCaleb kick)	0-21
3	5:05	USM Damion Fletcher 9-yard run (Darren McCaleb kick)	0-28
		17 plays, 80 yards, 9:55	
4	9:34	OH Tom Christy 13-yard pass from Austen Everson (Matt Lasher kick)	7-28
		13 plays, 58 yards, 5:42	

Team Statistics

	Ohio	USM
FIRST DOWNS	12	17
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	22-47	39-124
PASSING YDS (NET)	177	160
Passes Att-Comp-Int	37-15-2	22-14-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	59-224	61-284
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	5-37.0	4-41.8
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-0
Penalties-Yards	6-39	6-50

Individual Statistical Leaders

Rushing: Ohio-McRAE, Calvin 10-37; BOWER, Brad 3-9; OWENS, Voncele 2-7.
Southern Miss-HARRISON, Tory 9-68; FLETCHER, Dam. 20-58; WEAKLEY, Bobby 2-11.

Passing: Ohio-EVERSON, Austen 14-34-1-175; BOWER, Brad 1-3-1-2.
Southern Miss-YOUNG, Jeremy 14-22-1-160.

Receiving: Ohio-MAYLE, Scott 4-56; NORWOOD, William 3-36; CHRISTY, Thomas 2-43. **Southern Miss-BARNES**, Josh 4-59; PERINE, Anthony 3-37; FLETCHER, Dam. 3-28.

Little Caesars Pizza Bowl

Dec. 26, 2009 • Detroit, Mich.

Ohio	17
Marshall	21

The Marshall Thundering Herd got up by three touchdowns early and held off a game Ohio squad 21-17 in the Little Caesars Pizza Bowl at Ford Field. Marshall finished its campaign at 7-6, while Ohio finished at 9-5.

Linebacker Noah Keller's 17 tackles on the day gave the junior 155 total tackles this season, the best defensive effort for the Bobcats in more than 15 seasons. The total also placed Keller in Ohio's all-time top 10 for single-season tackles.

With 7:11 remaining in the third quarter, Theo Scott connected with junior receiver Terrence McCrae for an 8-yard touchdown pass to cap a five-play, 37-yard drive. The touchdown pass was Scott's 20th of the season, setting a new single-season school record for touchdown passes. It was also the ninth touchdown reception of the season for McCrae, which tied the school record for single-season touchdown receptions, set in 2007 by tight end Andrew Mooney.

Matt Weller booted his 21st field goal of the season, setting a new school record for field goals made in a single season, both for the team and for Weller individually.

The 2009 Ohio senior class made a significant mark on the program's history by becoming the only class to go to two bowl games and by winning more games (28) than any class in 40 years.

Score by Quarters

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
OHIO	0	7	10	7	17
Marshall	14	7	0	0	21

Scoring Summary

Q	Time	Play	Score
1	1:17	MSH Martin Ward 12-yard run (Craig Ratanamorn kick)	0-7
		12 plays, 79 yards, 7:24	
1	0:00	MSH Andre Booker 58-yard punt return (Craig Ratanamorn kick)	0-14
2	7:21	MSH Martin Ward 2-yard run (Craig Ratanamorn kick)	0-21
		10 plays, 54 yards, 5:45	
2	5:25	OH Shannon Ballard 75-yard fumble return (Matt Weller kick)	7-21
3	7:11	OH Terrence McCrae 8-yard pass from Theo Scott (Matt Weller kick)	14-21
		5 plays, 37 yards, 1:56	
3	4:38	OH Matt Weller 46-yard field goal	17-21
		4 plays, 6 yards, 1:25	

Team Statistics

	Ohio	MSH
FIRST DOWNS	10	15
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	24-12	46-190
PASSING YDS (NET)	111	85
Passes Att-Comp-Int	27-14-1	17-12-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	51-123	63-275
Fumble Returns-Yards	1-75	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	5-40.4	6-28.3
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards	3-39	6-70

Individual Statistical Leaders

Rushing: Ohio - Garrett, Chris 10-30; Brazill, LaVon 3-7; Davidson, Vince 1-1; TEAM 1-minus 1; Scott, Theo 9-minus 25.
Marshall - MARSHALL, Darius 20-77; WARD, Martin 9-72; ANDERSON, Brian 6-17; TAYLOR, Press 3-15; EDWARDS-MAYE, T 4-5; ARRINGTON, Devin 1-3; BOOKER, Andre 1-2; SMITH, Lee 1-0; TEAM 1-minus 1.

Passing: Ohio -Scott, Theo 14-26-1-111; Brazill, LaVon 0-1-0-0.
Marshall - ANDERSON, Brian 12-17-0-85.

Receiving: Ohio - Price, Taylor 4-49; Brazill, LaVon 3-13; Goulet, Steven 2-33; McCrae, Terrence 2-11; Bussey, Bakari 1-6; Harden, Donte 1-0; Garrett, Chris 1-minus 1.
Marshall - WALKER, Chuck 4-35; WILSON, Antavio 3-18; SMITH, Lee 2-29; MARSHALL, Dariu 2-2; WARD, Martin 1-1.



INDEPENDENCE BOWL - GAMENOTES

R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl

Dec.. 18, 2010 • New Orleans, La.

Ohio	21
Troy	48

The Troy Trojans used a fast-paced offensive attack to rack up 602 yards of total offense in downing Ohio 48-21 in the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl n the New Orleans Superdome.

Ohio's Shannon Ballard tied a New Orleans Bowl record with a career-high 13 tackles (Boris Lee, Troy-2008), while Tremayne Scott registered the team's only tackle for loss.

Donte Harden also set a New Orleans Bowl record and tied another. His 161 yards on kickoff returns topped the previous mark of 153 by Shaka Hill of Memphis in 2007. Harden's eight kick returns tied a record also held by Memphis' Hill.

Boo Jackson finished his career as Ohio's career leader in completion percentage (.604), pass efficiency (136.3), total offense per play (6.18), passing yards per attempt (7.7) and touchdown passes (38).

Score by Quarters

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
OHIO	7	0	7	7	21
Troy	14	24	10	0	48

Scoring Summary

Q	Time	Play	Score
1	9:52	TROY Jerrel Jernigan 12-yard run (Michael Taylor kick), 10 plays, 78 yards, 4:12	0-7
1	4:59	OH Steven Goulet 34-yard pass from Boo Jackson (Matt Weller kick) 8 plays, 81 yards, 4:53	7-7
1	1:57	TROY Tebrius Gill 31-yard pass from Corey Robinson (Michael Taylor kick) 8 plays, 76 yards, 3:02	7-14
2	12:42	TROY Jerrel Jernigan 16-yard pass from Corey Robinson (Michael Taylor kick) 7 plays, 66 yards, 2:11	7-21
2	8:33	TROY Michael Taylor 50-yard field goal 6 plays, 36 yards, 1:50	7-24
2	2:56	TROY Tebrius Gill 17-yard pass from Corey Robinson (Michael Taylor kick) 8 plays, 80 yards, 3:54	7-31
2	0:36	TROY Tebrius Gill 26-yard pass from Corey Robinson (Michael Taylor kick) 6 plays, 55 yards, 0:57	7-38
3	11:58	TROY Michael Taylor 33-yard field goal 10 plays, 48 yards, 3:02	7-41
3	8:31	OH Donte Foster 5-yard pass from Boo Jackson (Matt Weller kick) 8 plays, 93 yards, 3:27	14-41
3	6:36	TROY DuJuan Harris 2 yd run (Michael Taylor kick) 6 plays, 83 yards, 1:55	14-48
4	5:07	OH Riley Dunlop 18-yard pass from Boo Jackson (Matt Weller kick) 9 plays, 54 yards, 5:40	21-48

Team Statistics

	Ohio	Troy
FIRST DOWNS	14	30
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	30-99	33-220
PASSING YDS (NET)	209	382
Passes Att-Comp-Int	22-14-2	43-33-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	52-308	76-602
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punts (Number-Avg)	5-42.2	2-41.5
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-0
Penalties-Yards	6-57	5-35

Individual Statistical Leaders

Rushing: Ohio - DAVIDSON, Vince 6-36; Harden, Donte 6-25; JACKSON, Boo 10-20; Bates, Phil 5-11; Goulet, Steven 2-7; MCCRAE, T. 1-0.
Troy - DuJuan Harris 14-105; Shawn Southward 9-75; Jerrel Jernigan 3-16; Chris Anderson 2-10; D.J. Taylor 1-9; Corey Robinson 1-5; T.J. Mitchell 1-3; Z. Richardson 1-2; TEAM 1-minus 5.

Passing: Ohio - JACKSON, Boo 14-21-1-209; Bates, Phil 0-1-1-0.
Troy - Corey Robinson 32-42-0-387; Jon. Chandler 1-1-0-minus 5.

Receiving: Ohio - DUNLOP, Riley 4-91; MCCRAE, T. 3-24; GOULET, Steven 2-40; Foster, Donte 2-28; THOMPSON, J. 2-25; Hill, Troy 1-1.
Troy Trojans-Jerrel Jernigan 7-48; Tebrius Gill 4-80; Jason Bruce 4-59; Chip Reeves 4-31; DuJuan Harris 4-30; Jamel Johnson 3-36; Eric Thomas 3-33; Brett Moncrief 2-43; Jon. Chandler 1-12; D.J. Taylor 1-10.

Famous Idaho Potato Bowl

Dec.. 17, 2011 • Boise, Idaho

Ohio	24
Utah State	23

Trailing 23-17 with 2:21 remaining in the season, Ohio Football put together a nine-play, 61-yard touchdown drive to win the first bowl game in program history at the 2011 Famous Idaho Potato Bowl. A fourth-down completion from Tyler Tettleton to LaVon Brazill set up the game-winning score, a one-yard rush by Tettleton to the corner of the end zone which gave Ohio a 24-23 victory over the Utah State Aggies.

Not only was Ohio's victory on Saturday the first bowl victory in program history, but it also marks head coach Frank Solich's 50th win at Ohio and the first time an Ohio Football team has won ten games since 1968.

Tettleton completed 19 of 26 passes on the night, throwing for 220 yards and two touchdowns. Saturday's game marked the 11th time he'd thrown for at least 200 yards or more.

Score by Quarters

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
OHIO	0	7	10	7	24
Utah State	9	0	14	0	23

Scoring Summary

Q	Time	Play	Score
1	8:02	USU Team Safety	0-2
1	3:39	USU Tarren Lloyd 3-yard pass from Adam Kennedy (Josh Thompson kick) 9 plays, 50 yards, 4:23	0-9
2	4:40	OHIO Derek Roback 26-yard pass from Tyler Tettleton (Matt Weller kick) 7 plays, 56 yards, 2:27	7-9
3	12:19	USU Michael Smith 63-yard run (Josh Thompson kick) 7 plays, 66 yards, 2:11	7-16
3	9:52	OHIO Matt Weller 32-yard field goal 8 plays, 60 yards, 2:27	10-16
3	5:51	USU Michael Smith 11-yard run (Josh Thompson kick) 9 plays, 83 yards, 4:01	10-23
3	3:45	OHIO LaVon Brazill 44-yard pass from Tettleton (Matt Weller kick) 5 plays, 66 yards, 2:06	17-23
4	0:13	OHIO Tyler Tettleton 1-yard run (Matt Weller kick) 9 plays, 61 yards, 1:49	24-23

Team Statistics

	Ohio	Utah State
FIRST DOWNS	22	18
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	42-125	50-345
PASSING YDS (NET)	220	96
Passes Att-Comp-Int	26-19-0	19-12-0
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	68-345	69-441
Fumble Returns-Yards	2-0	1-1
Punts (Number-Avg)	6-46.5	5-40.4
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	6-45	4-40

Individual Statistical Leaders

Rushing: Ohio - Harden, Donte 15-47; Blankenship, Beau 11-47; Tettleton 16-31.
Utah State - Smith, Michael 12-157; Turbin, Robert 20-101; Williams, K. 9-62; Kennedy, Adam 6-11.

Passing: Ohio - Tettleton, Tyler 19-26-0-220. **Utah State** - Kennedy, Adam Kennedy 11-18-0-63; Morrison, S. 1-1-0-33.

Receiving: Ohio - Brazill, LaVon 8-108; Harden, Donte 4-37; Dunlop, Riley 3-35; Roback Derek 1-26. **Utah State** - Morrison, S. 4-25; Moats, Eric 2-9; Jacobs, Chuck 2-8; Van Leeuwen, T. 1-26.



TEAM RECORDS

Most Points Scored

Game

1.	89	vs. Wittenberg	1916
2.	80	vs. Rio Grande	1937
	80	vs. Baldwin-Wallace	1919
4.	78	vs. Franklin	1933
5.	68	vs. Transylvania	1933
6.	67	vs. Western Michigan	1953
7.	66	vs. Cincinnati	1928
8.	65	vs. Buckhannon	1906
9.	62	vs. Camp Sherman	1918
10.	60	vs. Cincinnati	1968

Season

1.	427	2011	14 games (30.5 ppg)
2.	376	1968	10 games (37.6 ppg)
3.	367	2012	12 games (30.6 ppg)
4.	366	2007	12 games (30.5 ppg)
5.	357	2010	13 games (27.5ppg)
6.	347	2009	14 games (25.4 ppg)
7.	343	2000	11 games (31.2 ppg)
8.	305	1929	9 games (33.9 ppg)
9.	302	1996	12 games (25.2 ppg)
10.	301	1997	11 games (27.4 ppg)

Most Points Per Game

Season

	PPG	Year	Pts.	Games
1.	37.6	1968	376	10
2.	33.9	1929	305	9
3.	31.2	2000	343	11
4.	30.7	1933	277	9
5.	30.6	2012	367	12
6.	30.5	2011	427	14
	30.5	2007	366	12
8.	28.4	1928	256	9
9.	27.5	2010	357	13
10.	27.4	1997	301	11

Points Scored - Combined

Game

1.	108 (W, 60-48)	vs. Cincinnati	1968
2.	100 (L, 45-55)	vs. East Carolina	1996
3.	93 (L, 21-72)	vs. Bowling Green	2002
4.	92 (W, 89-3)	vs. Wittenberg	1916
5.	91 (L, 42-49)	vs. Richmond*	1968
	91 (W, 49-42)	vs. Akron	2008
7.	90 (W, 48-42)	vs. EMU	2007
8.	89 (L, 41-48)	vs. Toledo	2001
9.	85 (W, 45-40)	vs. Kent State	1991
10.	83 (L, 27-56)	vs. Central Michigan	1986
	83 (L, 40-43)	vs. Toledo	2007

*Tangerine Bowl

Fewest Points Allowed

Season (9-or-more games)

1.	7	1929	9 games (0.8 ppg)
2.	26	1897	9 games (2.9 ppg)
3.	28	1933	9 games (3.1 ppg)
4.	29	1932	9 games (3.2 ppg)
5.	32	1940	9 games (3.6 ppg)
	32	1930	9 games (3.6 ppg)
7.	33	1915	9 games (3.7 ppg)
8.	34	1960	10 games (3.4 ppg)
9.	43	1901	9 games (4.8 ppg)
10.	52	1937	9 games (5.8 ppg)

Margin of Victory

Game

1.	86 (89-3)	vs. Wittenberg	1916
2.	80 (80-0)	vs. Rio Grande	1937
	80 (80-0)	vs. Baldwin-Wallace	1919
4.	78 (78-0)	vs. Franklin	1933
5.	68 (68-0)	vs. Transylvania	1933
6.	65 (65-0)	vs. Buckhannon	1906
7.	62 (62-0)	vs. Camp Sherman	1918
8.	61 (61-0)	vs. Morris Harvey	1933
9.	60 (66-6)	vs. Cincinnati	1928
	60 (60-0)	vs. Lancaster	1895

Most Points in a Loss

Game

1.	45 (45-55)	vs. East Carolina	1996
2.	42 (42-49)	vs. Richmond*	1968
3.	41 (41-48)	vs. Toledo	2001
4.	40 (40-43)	vs. Toledo	2007
5.	37 (37-38)	at Buffalo	2011
	37 (37-48)	vs. Akron	2007
7.	33 (33-37)	vs. Kent State	2003
8.	32 (32-39)	vs. Western Michigan	2003
	32 (32-42)	vs. UCF	2002
10.	31 (31-49)	vs. Miami	2003
	31 (31-34)	at NC State	1998
	31 (31-33)	vs. Eastern Michigan	1986

*Tangerine Bowl

Total Offense

Yards Gained - Game

1.	662	vs. Eastern Michigan	1980
2.	612	vs. Eastern Michigan	1997
3.	597	vs. Tennessee Tech	2000
4.	584	vs. New Mexico State	2012
5.	577	vs. Western Michigan	1953
6.	575	vs. VMI	2008
7.	560	vs. Toledo	2007
8.	559	vs. Eastern Michigan	2012
	559	vs. Marshall	2011
10.	556	vs. Akron	2011

Yards Gained - Season

1.	6,241	2011
2.	5,226	2012
3.	4,599	2000
4.	4,374	2007
5.	4,342	2009
6.	4,337	2008
7.	4,239	2010
8.	4,197	1968
9.	4,052	2003
10.	3,939	1981

Average Yards per Game - Season

1.	445.8	2011
2.	418.1	2000
3.	415.7	1968
4.	365.4	1953
5.	364.5	2007
6.	361.4	2008
7.	356.4	1999
8.	353.0	1980
9.	340.1	1970
10.	339.7	1969

Rushing

Yards Gained - Game

1.	612	vs. Eastern Michigan	1997
2.	447	vs. Western Michigan	1953
3.	444	vs. Central Michigan	2000
4.	429	vs. Tennessee Tech	2000
5.	418	vs. Eastern Michigan	2002
6.	414	vs. Ball State	2005
7.	413	vs. Idaho	1976
8.	410	vs. East Carolina	1996
9.	408	vs. Northern Illinois	1998
10.	407	vs. Kent State	1996

Yards Gained - Season

1.	3,553	2000
2.	3,321	1997
3.	3,289	1996
4.	3,171	2011
5.	3,054	1998
6.	2,883	1999
7.	2,878	2002
8.	2,641	2001
9.	2,585	1974
10.	2,566	1960

Average Yards per Game - Season

1.	323.0	2000
2.	301.9	1997
3.	277.6	1998
4.	274.1	1996
5.	262.1	1999
6.	256.6	1960
7.	253.5	1968
8.	246.3	1953
9.	240.1	2001
10.	239.8	2002

Average Yards per Carry - Season

1.	5.50	2000
2.	5.12	1997
3.	4.89	1953
4.	4.80	1996
5.	4.74	1960
6.	4.66	2001
7.	4.64	1954
8.	4.62	2011
	4.62	1999
10.	4.49	1998

Rushing Attempts

Game

1.	85	vs. Eastern Michigan	1997
2.	79	vs. Bowling Green	1978
	79	vs. Youngstown State	1958
4.	76	vs. Western Michigan	1975
	76	vs. Western Michigan	1973
	76	vs. Marshall	1968
7.	75	vs. NC State	1998
	75	vs. Kent State	1998
9.	73	vs. Buffalo	2002
	73	vs. Minnesota	2000
	73	vs. Miami	1999

Season

1.	685	1996
2.	680	1998
3.	662	1974
4.	649	2002
	649	1997
6.	646	2000
7.	626	1976
8.	624	1999
9.	609	2003
10.	597	2011



TEAM RECORDS

Rushing Touchdowns

Game

1.	7	vs. Kent State	2002
	7	vs. Central Michigan	2000
	7	vs. Western Michigan	1953
4.	6	vs. Eastern Michigan	1997
	6	vs. Marshall	1977
	6	vs. Northern Illinois	1976
	6	vs. Morehead State	1974
8.	5	Several Times	
		Last: vs. Miami	2010

Season

1.	40	1968
2.	32	2000
	32	1997
4.	30	2002
5.	29	1996
6.	28	1960
7.	27	1998
8.	26	2003
	26	1999
10.	25	2010
	25	1976
	25	1969
	25	1953

Passing

Yards Gained - Game

1.	409	vs. Kent State	1983
2.	394	vs. Kent State	1977
3.	393	vs. Western Michigan	1993
4.	380	vs. Bowling Green	1983
5.	365	vs. Central Michigan	2008
6.	355	vs. Ball State	1985
7.	344	at Akron	2011
8.	343	vs. Eastern Michigan	1980
9.	339	at Rutgers	2011
10.	332	vs. Northern Illinois	2006

Yards Gained - Season

1.	3,482	2011
2.	2,802	2012
3.	2,795	2008
4.	2,774	2009
5.	2,564	2007
6.	2,455	1986
7.	2,417	1981
8.	2,386	1983
9.	2,202	2004
10.	2,112	1985

Average Yards per Game - Season

1.	248.7	2011
2.	233.5	2012
3.	232.9	2008
4.	223.2	1986
5.	216.9	1983
6.	213.7	2007
7.	200.2	2004
8.	198.1	2009
9.	192.0	1985
	192.0	1985



Cleve Bryant quarterbacked the 1968 offense that averaged a school-record 37.6 points per game.

Passing Attempts

Game

1.	66	vs. Bowling Green	1983
2.	58	vs. Western Michigan	1986
	58	vs. Ball State	1985
4.	54	vs. Central Michigan	1986
5.	52	vs. Tennessee	2009
6.	51	vs. Pittsburgh	2004
	51	vs. Virginia Tech	1971
8.	50	vs. Bowling Green	1985
9.	48	vs. Kent State	1986
10.	45	vs. Kent State	1983

Season

1.	429	2011
2.	428	1986
3.	404	1985
4.	402	2009
5.	386	2008
6.	379	2012
7.	373	1983
8.	346	2004
9.	345	2007
10.	332	1981

Passing Completions

Game

1.	35	vs. Central Michigan	1986
2.	32	vs. Bowling Green	1983
3.	31	vs. Ball State	1985
4.	31	vs. Penn State	2012
5.	30	vs. Tennessee	2009
	30	vs. Kent State	1986
	30	vs. Bowling Green	1985
8.	29	vs. Wyoming	2008
	29	vs. Bowling Green	1983
10.	28	vs. Kent State	2011

Season

1.	276	2011
2.	235	2012
3.	232	1986
4.	228	2008
	228	2009
6.	210	1983
7.	203	1985
8.	193	2007
9.	180	2006
10.	179	1981

Touchdown Passes

Game

1.	5	vs. Akron	2008
2.	4	vs. Norfolk State	2012
	4	vs. Richmond*	1968
	4	vs. Akron	1951
	4	vs. Eastern Michigan	2007
6.	3	Several Times	
		Last: vs. Central Michigan	2011

*Tangerine Bowl

Season

1.	30	2011
2.	23	2009
3.	21	2012
	21	2008
5.	20	2010
6.	17	2007
7.	14	2004
	14	1985
	14	1981
	14	1977
	14	1968

Interceptions Thrown

Game

1.	7	vs. Toledo	1985
2.	6	vs. Penn State	1970
3.	5	vs. Pittsburgh	2002
	5	vs. Vanderbilt	1989
	5	vs. Northern Illinois	1985
	5	vs. Miami	1950

Season

1.	30	1985
2.	24	1950
3.	22	1986
	22	1970
5.	20	2010
	20	1989
	20	1952
	20	1951
9.	17	1981
10.	16	Several Times
		Last: 1994



TEAM RECORDS

Field Goals Made

Game

1.	5	at Bowling Green	2011
1.	4	vs. Ball State	2009
	4	vs. Kent State	2008
	4	vs. Wyoming	2007
4.	3	Several Times	
		Last: vs. Akron	2011

Season

1.	25	2011
2.	22	2012
3.	21	2009
	20	2007
5.	14	1987
6.	13	1947
	13	2006
	13	2008
9.	12	4 Teams Tied

Punting

Most Punts - Game

1.	14	vs. Marshall	1985
2.	13	vs. Bowling Green	1947
	13	vs. Virginia Tech	2007
4.	12	vs. Marshall	1986
	12	vs. Bowling Green	1982
	12	vs. Miami	1970
	12	vs. Cincinnati	1947
8.	11	vs. Miami	2005

Most Punts - Season

1.	86	2005
2.	82	1993
	82	1995
4.	78	2006
5.	77	1978
6.	75	1987
7.	74	1995
8.	73	1994
9.	72	1986
10.	71	1982

Highest Average - Game (min. 4 punts)

1.	56.5 (226/4)	vs. Buffalo	1999
2.	55.0 (330/6)	vs. Central Michigan	2001
3.	53.5 (321/6)	vs. Akron	1998
4.	52.2 (209/4)	vs. Northern Illinois	1999
5.	51.2 (461/9)	vs. Bowling Green	1975
6.	51.0 (255/5)	at New Mexico St.	2011
	51.0 (255/5)	vs. Bowling Green	2010
8.	50.6 (253/5)	vs. Marshall	2001
9.	50.2 (201/4)	vs. Miami	2000
10.	48.2 (241/5)	vs. Toledo	2005

Highest Average - Season

1.	45.60 (2280/50)	2001
2.	44.15 (2296/52)	1998
3.	43.94 (2109/48)	2000
4.	41.57 (2868/69)	2004
5.	41.46 (2612/63)	1999
6.	41.05 (2258/55)	2002
7.	41.04 (2011/49)	2010
8.	40.79 (2570/63)	1973
9.	40.76 (2038/50)	1971
10.	40.70 (2199/54)	2011

Punt Returns

Most Returns - Game

1.	9	vs. Western Reserve	1950
2.	8	vs. Miami	1993
3.	7	Eight Times	
		Last: vs. Miami	2009

Most Returns- Season

1.	43	2009
2.	41	2011
3.	40	1976
4.	38	2000
5.	37	2006
6.	36	1968
	36	1975
	36	1978
9.	32	Six Times

Most Yards - Game

1.	202	vs. Western Reserve	1950
2.	115	vs. Eastern Michigan	2002
3.	109	vs. Akron	2004
4.	107	vs. Butler	1950
5.	102	vs. Kent State	1989
	102	vs. West Texas State	1964
7.	101	vs. Bowling Green	1989
8.	100	vs. Ball State	1988
9.	99	vs. Northern Illinois	2009
10.	97	vs. Western Michigan	2006

Most Yards - Season

1.	497	1950
2.	485	2006
3.	454	2000
4.	433	2009
5.	356	2004
6.	320	1951
7.	317	2011
8.	312	1999
	312	1989
10.	310	1952

Kick Returns

Most Yards - Game

1.	261	vs. Miami	2007
2.	260	vs. Miami	2011
3.	221	vs. Tennessee	2009
4.	219	vs. East Carolina	1996
5.	208	vs. Wyoming	2007
6.	206	vs. Bowling Green	2008
7.	198	vs. Richmond*	1968
8.	190	vs. Western Michigan	2008
9.	189	vs. Akron	2007
10.	188	vs. Ball State	2012
	188	vs. North Texas	2009

Most Yards - Season

1.	1,584	2007
2.	1,345	2008
3.	1,255	2011
4.	1,130	2010
5.	1,119	1989
6.	1,115	2002
7.	1,045	1986
8.	1,038	1988
	1,038	2009
10.	989	1991



Chris Garrett recorded 378 of Ohio's 485 punt return yards in 2006. The team came just 12 yards shy of tying the school record set in 1950.

First Downs

Game

1.	38	vs. Tennessee Tech	2000
2.	33	vs. Eastern Michigan	1997
	33	vs. Eastern Michigan	1980
4.	31	vs. Akron	2001
	31	vs. Cincinnati	1968
6.	30	vs. Marshall	2011
	30	vs. Akron	2011
	30	vs. Youngstown State	1959
9.	29	vs. Akron	2012
	29	vs. Kent State	1996
	29	vs. Western Michigan	1975

Season

1.	327	2011
2.	281	2012
3.	246	2000
4.	231	1996
	231	1968
6.	229	1977
7.	224	1980
8.	221	2010
9.	220	2007
	220	2008

Fewest - Game (max. 5)

1.	1	vs. Marshall	1997
2.	5	vs. Virginia Tech	2007
	5	vs. Miami	1995
	5	vs. Bowling Green	1966
	5	vs. Purdue	1964
	5	vs. Illinois	1950
	5	vs. Bowling Green	1947



TEAM RECORDS

Offensive Plays

Game

1.	104	vs. Marshall	1968
2.	100	vs. Virginia Tech	1971
3.	97	vs. Bowling Green	1983
4.	96	vs. Western Michigan	1975
	96	vs. Western Michigan	1973
6.	89	vs. Miami	1999
7.	88	vs. Penn State	2012
8.	87	vs. Marshall	2012
	87	vs. Kent State	2012
	87	vs. Akron	1999

Season

1.	1026	2011
2.	937	2012
3.	857	2009
4.	856	2006
5.	854	1974
6.	847	2003
7.	837	1980
8.	836	1979
9.	832	1977
10.	817	2007

Yards Penalized

Game (min. 100)

1.	161	vs. Buffalo	2005
2.	155	vs. Kent State	2007
3.	147	vs. Marshall	1988
4.	145	vs. Northern Illinois	1976
5.	138	vs. North Texas	2009
6.	130	vs. Western Reserve	1952
7.	126	vs. Miami	1977
8.	122	vs. Kansas State	1997
9.	118	vs. Eastern Michigan	1981

Season

1.	846	2007
2.	832	2011
3.	804	2006
4.	794	1989
5.	757	2009
6.	736	1997
7.	727	1988
8.	714	1996
9.	708	2008
10.	687	2005

Interceptions By

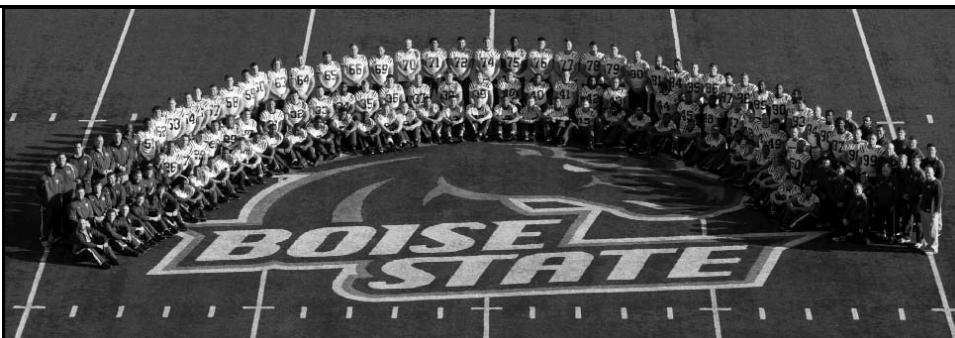
Game

1.	6	vs. Kent State	2005
	6	vs. Richmond*	1968
	6	vs. West Virginia	1949
4.	5	vs. Bowling Green	1985
	5	vs. Western Michigan	1969
	5	vs. Boston University	1960
	5	vs. Murray State	1946
8.	4	Several Times	
		Last: at Miami	2010

*Tangerine Bowl

Season

1.	26	1952
2.	21	1960
3.	20	2009
	20	1953
5.	18	1968
6.	17	2010
	17	1970
	17	1979
	17	1999
10.	16	1962
	16	1951
	16	1982



The 2011 team won the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl with a 24-23 victory over Utah State. It was the first Ohio team to win a bowl game. The Bobcats finished the year with a 10-4 record.

Quarterback Sacks

Game

1.	9	vs. Bowling Green	1996
2.	8	vs. Miami	1999
3.	7	vs. Ball State	1999
	7	vs. Buffalo	1999
5.	6	vs. UCF	2004
	6	vs. UCF	2003
	6	vs. Akron	1998
8.	5	Several Times	
		Last: vs. Bowling Green	2011

Season

1.	38	1996
2.	34	1997
3.	32	2003
4.	31	1999
5.	27	1995
6.	26	2007
	26	2004
8.	24	2010
	24	1998
	24	1985

Tackles for Loss

Game

1.	19	vs. Akron	1998
2.	17	vs. Buffalo	1999
3.	14	vs. Akron	2002
	14	vs. Miami	1999
	14	vs. Kent State	2006
6.	13	vs. Southern Mississippi*	2006
	13	vs. Iowa State	2000
	13	vs. Temple	2008
9.	12	vs. UCF	2004
	12	vs. Buffalo	2003
	12	vs. Ball State	1999

*GMAC Bowl

Season

1.	103	2006
2.	102	1996
3.	88	1999
4.	83	2003
	83	1997
6.	81	2011
	81	2007
7.	77	2002
8.	76	2000
	76	1998
10.	75	2009

Streaks

Longest Unbeaten Streak

19 (18-0-1)	1928-30
11 (9-0-2)	1939-40

Longest Winning Streak

12	1928-30
11	1960-61

Longest Winless Streak

15 (0-15-0)	1992-93
13 (0-9-4)	1909-11

Longest Losing Streak

15	1992-93
12 (Four Times; Last: 1994-95)	

Longest MAC Unbeaten Streak

10 (9-0-1)	1952-54
9 (9-0-0)	1967-69

Longest MAC Winning Streak

9	1967-69
7	1960-61

Longest MAC Winless Streak

18 (0-18-0)	1985-87
16 (0-14-2)	1989-91

Longest MAC Losing Streak

18	1985-87
11	1992-93

Consecutive Shutouts

7	1929-30
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Consecutive Games Without Scoring

11	1909-11
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Consecutive Winning Seasons

19 (122-39-11)	1924-42
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Consecutive Winning MAC Seasons

7 (24-13-2)	1949-55
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RUSHING RECORDS



Steveland Hookfin posted the Bobcats' then- top rushing season with 1,315 yards in 1998. He now ranks second on the career rushing chart with 3,972 yards.

Most Yards

Game

- 282 Kareem Wilson vs. Bowling Green 1996
- 275 Dick Conley vs. Marshall 1966
- 269 Beau Blankenship vs. UMass 2012**
- 264 Calvin McRae vs. Ball State 2005
- 257 Arnold Welcher vs. Marshall 1975
- 252 Tim Worner vs. Toledo 1972
- 247 Arnold Welcher vs. W. Michigan 1975
- 224 Calvin McRae vs. Buffalo 2005
- 222 Steveland Hookfin vs. N. Illinois 1998
- 222 Chris Garrett vs. Miami 2008

Season

- 1,500 Beau Blankenship 2012**
- 1,434 Calvin McRae 2007
- 1,315 Steveland Hookfin 1998
- 1,252 Calvin McRae 2006
- 1,175 Arnold Welcher 1975
- 1,153 Calvin McRae 2005
- 1,125 Steveland Hookfin 1996
- 1,099 Chad Brinker 2002
- 1,085 Tim Curtis 1991
- 1,072 Kareem Wilson 1996

Career

- 4,398 Calvin McRae 2004-07
- 3,972 Steveland Hookfin 1995-98
- 3,597 Kareem Wilson 1995-98
- 2,995 Tim Curtis 1990-93
- 2,826 Chad Brinker 1999-02
- 2,614 Kevin Babcock 1976-79
- 2,525 Arnold Welcher 1974-77
- 2,364 Bob Brooks 1958-60
- 2,201 Dontrell Jackson 1999-02
- 2,056 Jamel Patterson 1999-01

Most Carries

Game

- 43 Beau Blankenship vs. UMass 2012**
- 43 Bill Gary vs. Kent State 1970
- 42 Calvin McRae vs. Bowling Green 2007
- 42 Glenn Hunter vs. Miami 1984
- 42 Arnold Welcher vs. Western Michigan 1975
- 41 L.C. Lyons vs. Kent State 1974
- 41 Bill Gary vs. Bowling Green 1970
- 41 Bob Houmard vs. Xavier 1966
- 38 Tim Worner vs. Toledo 1972
- 37 Quinn Stumpf vs. Cincinnati 1950
- 36 Arnold Welcher vs. Wm & Mary 1975

Season

- 294 Calvin McRae 2007
- *275 Kareem Wilson 1996**
- 273 Steveland Hookfin 1998
- 271 Tim Curtis 1991
- 265 Bill Gary 1970
- 258 Calvin McRae 2006
- 244 Kareem Wilson 1995
- 238 John Caldwell 1987
- 236 Arnold Welcher 1975
- 232 Kevin Babcock 1978

Career

- 903 Calvin McRae 2004-07
- *885 Kareem Wilson 1995-98**
- 767 Steveland Hookfin 1995-98
- 750 Tim Curtis 1990-93
- 675 Kevin Babcock 1976-79
- 549 Chad Brinker 1999-02
- 544 Arnold Welcher 1974-77
- 540 Dontrell Jackson 1999-02
- 498 Bob Brooks 1958-60
- 489 Dave Housteton 1973-76

*NCAA record for quarterbacks

Highest Average Per Carry

Game (min. 10 carries)

- 14.8 Kareem Wilson vs. Bowling Green 1996
- 14.1 Dontrell Jackson vs. Central Michigan 2000
- 12.7 Chad Brinker vs. Iowa State 2001
- 11.3 Ray Huston vs. Central Michigan 2001
- 11.0 Riz Buckman vs. Eastern Michigan 1997
- 10.7 Jamel Patterson vs. Akron 2000
- 10.7 Arnold Welcher vs. Marshall 1975
- 10.6 Jamel Patterson vs. Buffalo 1999
- 10.0 Jamel Patterson vs. Tenn Tech 2000
- 9.9 Dontrell Jackson vs. Buffalo 2000

Season (min. 75 carries)

- 7.34 Erland Ahlberg 1954
- 6.97 Tom Ascani 1953
- 6.86 Riz Buckman 1997
- 6.65 Phil Bates 2010
- 6.46 Jamel Patterson 1999
- 5.93 David Conley 1966
- 5.83 Erland Ahlberg 1955
- 5.80 Jim Albert 1963
- 5.79 Jamel Patterson 2000
- 5.77 Steveland Hookfin 1996

Career (min. 200 carries)

- 6.73 Erland Ahlberg 1953-55
- 5.60 Jamel Patterson 1998-01
- 5.18 Steveland Hookfin 1995-98
- 5.15 Chad Brinker 1999-02
- 5.11 Beau Blankenship 2011-12
- 5.00 Donte Harden 2007-11
- 4.87 Calvin McRae 2004-07
- 4.82 Arnold Welcher 1974-77
- 4.76 Dave LeVeck 1967-69
- 4.70 Jim Albert 1961-63

Most Yards Per Game

Season (min. 7 games)

- 139.8 Beau Blankenship 2012**
- 119.5 Kavlin McRae 2007
- 119.5 Steveland Hookfin 1998
- 118.2 Bill Gary 1970
- 106.8 Arnold Welcher 1975
- 104.8 Calvin McRae 2005
- 98.6 Tim Curtis 1991
- 94.0 Arnold Welcher 1976
- 93.8 Steve Hookfin 1996
- 93.0 Erland Ahlberg 1954

Career (min. 20 games)

- 91.6 Calvin McRae 2004-07
- 90.3 Steveland Hookfin 1995-98
- 81.8 Kareem Wilson 1995-98
- 80.4 Andrew Greer 1988-89
- 74.4 Chad Brinker 1999-02
- 69.7 Tim Curtis 1990-93
- 59.4 Kevin Babcock 1976-79
- 57.4 Arnold Welcher 1974-77
- 56.8 Erland Ahlberg 1953-55
- 56.4 Dontrell Jackson 1999-02

Most Touchdowns

Game

- 4 Chad Brinker vs. Eastern Michigan 2002
- 4 Kareem Wilson vs. Bowling Green 1996
- 4 Tim Curtis vs. Kent State 1991
- 4 Andy Vetter vs. Northern Illinois 1976
- 4 Dick Conley vs. Marshall 1966
- 4 Jim Albert vs. Western Michigan 1963
- 3 Several Times

Last: Beau Blankenship vs. Ball State 2012

Season

- 19 Calvin McRae 2007
- 15 Calvin McRae 2006
- 14 Kareem Wilson 1996
- 13 Kareem Wilson 1998
- 13 Andy Vetter 1976
- 12 Bob Houmard 1968
- 12 Kareem Wilson 1997
- 12 Beau Blankenship 2012
- 11 Steveland Hookfin 1998
- 11 Andy Vetter 1977
- 11 Dave Juenger 1971
- 11 Bill Gary 1970

Career

- 49 Kareem Wilson 1995-98
- 45 Calvin McRae 2004-07
- 29 Steveland Hookfin 1995-98
- 27 Chad Brinker 1999-02
- 25 Andy Vetter 1974-77
- 21 Bob Brooks 1958-60
- 20 Cleve Bryant 1967-69
- 19 Jamel Patterson 1998-01
- 19 Tim Curtis 1990-93
- 19 Bob Houmard 1966-68

Longest Run from Scrimmage

- 93 (TD) Glenn Hunter vs. E. Michigan 1983
- 92 (TD) Chris Stefan vs. Xavier 1947
- 88 (TD) Ed Roberts vs. Western Reserve 1950
- 88 (TD) Erland Ahlberg vs. Toledo 1950
- 86 (TD) Bob Brooks vs. Xavier 1959
- 81 (TD) Donte' Harden vs. Temple 2011
- 80 (TD) Jamel Patterson vs. N. Iowa 1999
- 80 (TD) Justin Fitzgerald vs. Ball St, 2005
- 79 (TD) Chris Garrett vs. Miami 2008
- 76 (TD) Dick Conley vs. Boston College 1966
- 76 (TD) Bob Marchi vs. Buffalo 1950



RUSHING RECORDS

Rushing Leaders by Class

Freshmen*

1.	893	Kareem Wilson	1995
2.	731	David Houseton	1973
3.	668	Stevland Hookfin	1995
4.	600	Chad Brinker	1999
5.	559	Kalvin McRae	2004

Sophomores

1.	1,175	Arnold Welcher	1975
2.	1,153	Kalvin McRae	2005
3.	1,125	Stevland Hookfin	1996
4.	1,072	Kareem Wilson	1996
5.	1,064	Bill Gary	1970

Juniors

1.	1,500	Beau Blankenship	2012
2.	1,252	Kalvin McRae	2006
3.	1,085	Tim Curtis	1991
4.	1,034	Arnold Welcher	1976
5.	864	Stevland Hookfin	1997

Seniors

1.	1,434	Kalvin McRae	2007
2.	1,315	Stevland Hookfin	1998
3.	1,099	Chad Brinker	2002
4.	986	Donte' Harden	2011
5.	950	John Caldwell	1987

*Freshman were not eligible for varsity competition until 1972.

Most 100-Yard Games

Season

1.	8	Beau Blankenship	2012
	8	Kalvin McRae	2006
	8	Stevland Hookfin	1998
3.	7	Kalvin McRae	2007
	7	Arnold Welcher	1976
5.	6	Stevland Hookfin	1996
	6	Arnold Welcher	1975
	6	L.C. Lyons	1974
	6	Bill Gary	1970
9.	5	Kalvin McRae	2005
	5	Chad Brinker	2002
	5	Kareem Wilson	1995
	5	Tim Curtis	1991
	5	Rich Bevely	1974
	5	Dave Houseton	1973
	5	Dave LeVeck	1968

Career

1.	21	Kalvin McRae	2004-07
2.	19	Stevland Hookfin	1995-98
3.	15	Kareem Wilson	1995-98
	14	Arnold Welcher	1974-77
5.	10	Chad Brinker	1999-02
	10	Tim Curtis	1990-93
7.	8	Robert Brooks	1958-60
	8	Bill Gary	1970-71, 73
	8	Dave Houseton	1973-76
	8	L.C. Lyons	1972-74

Annual Leaders

Year	Player	Yards	Att.	Avg.	TDs
1950	Quinn Stumpf	609	142	4.3	5
1951	Ed Roberts	564	128	4.4	6
1952	Dick Phillips	345	78	4.4	4
1953	Tom Ascani	537	77	7.0	7
1954	Erland Ahlberg	837	114	7.3	8
1955	Erland Ahlberg	519	89	5.8	4
1956	Records Incomplete				
1957	Records Incomplete				
1958	Records Incomplete				
1959	Records Incomplete				
1960	Robert Brooks	830	165	5.0	8
1961	Otis Wagner	441	86	5.1	3
1962	Jim Albert	375	88	4.3	4
1963	Jim Albert	707	122	5.8	8
1964	Wash Lyons	835	192	4.3	6
1965	Sam Bogan	308	75	4.1	1
1966	Bob Houmard	641	189	3.4	5
1967	Dick Conley	841	226	3.7	9
1968	Dave LeVeck	850	175	4.9	11
1969	Dave LeVeck	464	106	4.4	4
1970	Bill Gary	1,064	265	4.0	11
1971	Dave Juenger	646	211	3.1	11
1972	L.C. Lyons	554	161	3.4	5
1973	Houseton, Dave	731	209	3.5	6
1974	L.C. Lyons	928	231	4.0	7
1975	Arnold Welcher	1,175	236	5.0	7
1976	Arnold Welcher	1,034	213	4.9	4
1977	Kevin Babcock	585	147	4.0	3
1978	Kevin Babcock	861	232	3.7	1
1979	Tony Carifa	700	156	4.5	8
1980	Tony Carifa	853	198	4.3	6
1981	Todd Yoho	500	113	4.4	4
1982	Orvell Johns	451	130	3.5	4
1983	Glenn Hunter	338	92	3.7	2
1984	Glenn Hunter	800	228	3.5	5
1985	Jesse Owens	709	209	3.4	3
1986	Jesse Owens	557	161	3.5	5
1987	John Caldwell	950	238	4.0	2
1988	Andrew Greer	863	193	4.5	8
1989	Andrew Greer	905	192	4.7	7
1990	Ricky Howell	832	192	4.3	5
1991	Tim Curtis	1,085	271	4.0	10
1992	Tim Curtis	825	213	3.9	4
1993	Tim Curtis	829	217	3.8	3
1994	Lakarlos Townsend	676	199	3.4	1
1995	Kareem Wilson	893	244	3.7	10
1996	Stevland Hookfin	1,125	195	5.8	9
1997	Stevland Hookfin	864	159	5.4	9
1998	Stevland Hookfin	1,315	273	4.8	11
1999	Chad Brinker	600	121	5.0	5
2000	Dontrell Jackson	864	155	5.6	2
2001	Jamel Patterson	638	117	5.5	5
2002	Chad Brinker	1,099	228	4.8	10
2003	Fred Ray	382	77	5.0	8
2004	Kalvin McRae	559	142	3.9	4
2005	Kalvin McRae	1,153	209	5.5	7
2006	Kalvin McRae	1,252	258	4.9	15
2007	Kalvin McRae	1,434	294	4.9	19
2008	Chris Garrett	554	117	4.5	5
2009	Chris Garrett	621	147	4.2	2
2010	Vince Davidson	580	138	4.0	6
2011	Donte' Harden	986	187	5.3	2
2012	Beau Blankenship	1,500	293	5.1	11



PASSING RECORDS



Austen Everson (left) finished his career in 2006 ranked in the Bobcats' all-time top 10 in passing yards, attempts, completions and touchdowns. Dontrell Jackson (right) is one of two Bobcats (Kareem Wilson) to total 2,000 yards rushing (2,201) and 2,000 yards passing (2,452) during their career.

Most Yards

Game		
1. 409	Donny Harrison vs. Kent St.	1983
2. 394	Andy Vetter vs. Kent St.	1977
3. 380	Donny Harrison vs. Bowling Green	1983
4. 365	Boo Jackson vs. CMU	2008
5. 355	Dennis Swearingen vs. Ball St.	1985
6. 343	Sammy Shon vs. E. Michigan	1980
7. 341	Tyler Tettleton at Rutgers	2011
8. 328	Tyler Tettleton at Akron	2011
9. 324	Tyler Tettleton at Penn State 2012	
324	Theo Scott vs. Temple	2009

Season

1. 3,302	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2. 2,513	Tyler Tettleton	2012
3. 2,369	Theo Scott	2009
4. 2,366	Sammy Shon	1981
5. 2,355	Boo Jackson	2008
6. 2,309	Donny Harrison	1983
7. 2,281	Bruce Porter	1986
8. 2,056	Dennis Swearingen	1985
9. 1,897	Boo Jackson	2010
10. 1,855	Tom Dubs	1991

Career

1. 5,943	Tyler Tettleton	2009-present
2. 5,412	Sammy Shon	1978-81
3. 5,199	Anthony Thornton	1987-90
4. 4,446	Boo Jackson	2008-2010
5. 3,856	Donny Harrison	1979-83
6. 3,586	Austen Everson	2003-06
7. 3,475	Dennis Swearingen	1982-85
8. 3,414	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
9. 3,359	Theo Scott	2007-2009
10. 2,873	Rich Bevy	1972-74

Most Attempts

Game		
1. 64	Donny Harrison vs. Bowling Green	1983
2. 58	Dennis Swearingen vs. Ball St.	1985
3. 57	Bruce Porter vs. W. Michigan	1986
4. 54	Bruce Porter vs. C. Michigan	1986
5. 52	Theo Scott vs. Tennessee	2009
6. 50	Dennis Swearingen vs. Bowling Green	1985
7. 45	Donny Harrison vs. Kent St.	1983
8. 43	Andy Vetter vs. Kent St.	1977
9. 42	Tyler Tettleton vs. Kent St.	2011
42	Boo Jackson vs. Northwestern	2008

Season

1. 415	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2. 383	Bruce Porter	1986
383	Dennis Swearingen	1985
4. 357	Donny Harrison	1983
5. 345	Tyler Tettleton	2012
6. 344	Theo Scott	2009
7. 320	Sammy Shon	1981
8. 306	Boo Jackson	2008
9. 264	Tom Dubs	1991
10. 262	Ryan Hawk	2004

Career

1. 889	Anthony Thornton	1987-90
2. 805	Sammy Shon	1978-81
3. 783	Tyler Tettleton	2009-present
4. 608	Austen Everson	2003-06
5. 603	Dennis Swearingen	1982-85
6. 591	Donny Harrison	1979-83
7. 581	Boo Jackson	2008-10
8. 507	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
9. 497	Theo Scott	2007-2009
10. 452	Rich Bevy	1972-74

Most Completions

Game

1. 35	Bruce Porter vs. C. Michigan	1986
2. 32	Donny Harrison vs. Bowling Green	1983
3. 31	Tyler Tettleton at Penn State 2012	
31	Dennis Swearingen vs. Ball St.	1985
5. 30	Theo Scott vs. Tennessee	2009
30	Bruce Porter vs. Kent St.	1986
30	Dennis Swearingen vs. Bowling Green	1985
8. 29	Donny Harrison vs. Kent St.	1983
9. 28	Tyler Tettleton vs. Kent St.	2011
28	Andy Vetter vs. Kent St.	1977

Season

1. 267	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2. 216	Bruce Porter	1986
3. 214	Tyler Tettleton	2012
4. 203	Donny Harrison	1983
5. 199	Theo Scott	2009
6. 195	Dennis Swearingen	1985
7. 185	Boo Jackson	2008
8. 175	Sammy Shon	1981
9. 149	Boo Jackson	2010
10. 144	Tom Dubs	1991

Career

1. 490	Tyler Tettleton	2009-present
2. 452	Sammy Shon	1978-81
3. 408	Anthony Thornton	1987-90
4. 351	Boo Jackson	2008-10
5. 334	Donny Harrison	1979-83
6. 330	Dennis Swearingen	1982-85
7. 305	Austen Everson	2003-06
8. 291	Theo Scott	2007-09
9. 231	Bruce Porter	1985-87
10. 226	Cleve Bryant	1967-69

Most Touchdowns

Game

1. 5	Boo Jackson vs. Akron	2008
2. 4	Derrius Vick vs. Norfolk State	2012
4	Cleve Bryant vs. Richmond*	1968
3. 3	27 Times	
Last: Tyler Tettleton vs. EMU		2012

*Tangerine Bowl

Season

1. 28	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2. 20	Theo Scott	2009
3. 19	Boo Jackson	2008
4. 18	Boo Jackson	2010
5. 16	Tyler Tettleton	2012
6. 14	Sammy Shon	1981
14	Cleve Bryant	1968
8. 13	Bruce Porter	1986
13	Dennis Swearingen	1985
10. 11	Brad Bower	2007

Career

1. 44	Tyler Tettleton	2009-present
2. 38	Boo Jackson	2008--2010
3. 29	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
4. 26	Theo Scott	2007-2009
5. 24	Sammy Shon	1978-81
6. 21	Bill Frederick	1951-54
7. 20	Rich Bevy	1972-74
8. 19	Andy Vetter	1974-77
9. 18	Austen Everson	2003-06
18	Donny Harrison	1979-83



PASSING RECORDS

Completion Percentage

Game (min. 10 attempts)

1. .833 (10-12)	Ryan Hawk	
	vs. Kent State	2003
2. .818 (9-11)	Dontrell Jackson	
	vs. Akron	2001
.818 (9-11)	Dontrell Jackson	
	vs. Kent State	2000
4. .810 (17-21)	Theo Scott	
	vs. Temple	2009
5. .786 (22-28)	Theo Scott	
	vs. Buffalo	2009
6. .769 (10-13)	Dontrell Jackson	
	vs. Tennessee Tech	2000
7. .750 (18-24)	Sammy Shon	
	vs. Eastern Michigan	1980
.750 (15-20)	Boo Jackson	
	vs. Miami	2008
9. .742 (23-31)	Austen Everson	
	vs. Northern Illinois	2006
10. .737 (14-19)	Tom Dubs	
	vs. Tennessee Tech	1991

Season (min. 75 attempts)

1. .643 (267-415)	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2. .632 (117-185)	Dennis Swearingen	1984
3. .620 (214-345)	Tyler Tettleton	2012
4. .608 (149-245)	Boo Jackson	2010
5. .605 (133-220)	Sammy Shon	1979
.605 (185-306)	Boo Jackson	2008
7. .592 (135-228)	Anthony Thornton	1990
8. .578 (199-344)	Theo Scott	2009
.578 (63-109)	Theo Scott	2007
10. .576 (114-198)	Donny Harrison	1982

Career (min. 200 attempts)

1. .626 (490-783)	Tyler Tettleton	2009-present
2. .604 (351-381)	Boo Jackson	2008-2010
3. .586 (291-497)	Theo Scott	2007-2009
4. .565 (334-591)	Donny Harrison	1979-83
5. .561 (452-805)	Sammy Shon	1978-81
6. .554 (195-352)	Andy Vetter	1974-77
7. .553 (168-304)	Brad Bower	2006-07
8. .549 (231-421)	Bruce Porter	1985-87
9. .547 (330-603)	Dennis Swearingen	1982-85
10. .518 (129-249)	Fred Ray	2000-03

Most Yards Per Game

Season (min. 5 games)

1. 235.9	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2. 228.5	Tyler Tettleton	2012
3. 228.1	Bruce Porter	1986
4. 215.1	Sammy Shon	1981
5. 209.9	Donny Harrison	1983
6. 196.2	Boo Jackson	2008
7. 186.9	Dennis Swearingen	1985
8. 173.7	Theo Scott	2009
9. 168.6	Tom Dubs	1991
10. 160.5	Brad Bower	2007

Career (min. 20 games)

1. 169.8	Tyler Tettleton	2009-12
2. 164.7	Boo Jackson	2008-10
3. 129.9	Theo Scott	2007-09
4. 123.8	Anthony Thornton	1987-90
5. 123.0	Sammy Shon	1978-81
6. 113.8	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
7. 106.8	Ryan Hawk	2003-04
8. 99.6	Brad Bower	2006-07
9. 94.4	Austen Everson	2003-06
10. 89.8	Rich Bevly	1972-74

Most Interceptions Thrown

Game

1. 6	Steve Skiver vs. Penn State	1970
2. 5	Jeff Baker vs. Vanderbilt	1989
3. 4	15 Times	
	Last: Boo Jackson vs. Louisiana	2010

Season

1. 26	Dennis Swearingen	1985
2. 22	Steve Skiver	1970
3. 17	Boo Jackson	2010
17	Sammy Shon	1981
5. 16	Donny Harrison	1983
6. 15	Anthony Thornton	1988
15	Cleve Bryant	1967
8. 14	Bruce Porter	1986
14	Sammy Shon	1980
10. 13	Anthony Thornton	1989
13	Andy Vetter	1977

Career

1. 46	Sammy Shon	1978-81
2. 40	Anthony Thornton	1987-90
3. 38	Dennis Swearingen	1982-85
4. 29	Steve Skiver	1968-70
29	Boo Jackson	2008-10
6. 27	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
7. 26	Donny Harrison	1979-83
8. 25	Austen Everson	2003-06
25	Bill Frederick	1951-54
10. 23	Rich Bevly	1972-74

Most Yards Per Attempt

Game (min. 5 attempts)

1. 22.3	Kareem Wilson vs. W. Michigan	1996
2. 15.4	Theo Scott vs. Temple	2009
3. 14.7	Fred Ray vs. E. Michigan	2002
4. 14.5	Dontrell Jackson vs. W. Michigan	2000
5. 14.0	Ryan Hawk vs. Kent St.	2003
14.0	Dontrell Jackson vs. Miami	1999
7. 12.8	Fred Ray vs. Buffalo	2003
12.8	Kareem Wilson vs. Buffalo	1997
9. 12.5	Boo Jackson vs. VMI	2008
10. 12.4	Brandon Jones vs. Buffalo	2005

Season (min. 75 attempts)

1. 8.9	Bob Babbitt	1962
2. 7.9	Tyler Tettleton	2011
3. 7.7	Boo Jackson	2010
7.7	Boo Jackson	2008
7.7	Ryan Hawk	2003
7.7	Andy Vetter	1977
7. 7.6	Bob Babbitt	1961
7.6	Cleve Bryant	1968
9. 7.4	Dontrell Jackson	2000
7.4	Sammy Shon	1981

Career (min. 200 attempts)

1. 7.7	Boo Jackson	2008- 2010
2. 7.5	Tyler Tettleton	2009-present
3. 7.2	Brad Bower	2006-07
7.2	Andy Vetter	1974-77
5. 6.9	Bill Frederick	1951-54
6. 6.8	Theo Scott	2007-2009
7. 6.7	Sammy Shon	1978-81
6.7	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
9. 6.6	Dontrell Jackson	1999-02
10. 6.5	Ryan Hawk	2003-04
6.5	Fred Ray	2000-03

Most Yards Per Completion

Game (min. 3 completions)

1. 40.7	Kareem Wilson vs. E. Michigan	1998
2. 34.7	Austen Everson vs. Kentucky	2004
3. 30.2	Kareem Wilson vs. Kansas St.	1997
4. 29.5	Austen Everson vs. UCF	2003
5. 29.0	Dontrell Jackson vs. W. Michigan	2000
6. 26.8	Kareem Wilson vs. W. Michigan	1996
7. 25.5	Bob Babbitt vs. Iowa St.	1962
8. 25.0	Kareem Wilson vs. Kent St.	1995
9. 24.1	Cleve Bryant vs. Kansas	1967
10. 24.0	Sam Vink vs. Bowling Green	1994

Season (min. 50 completions)

1. 17.7	Bob Babbitt	1962
2. 17.0	Cleve Bryant	1967
3. 16.3	Dontrell Jackson	2000
4. 16.2	Rich Bevly	1973
5. 15.6	Cleve Bryant	1968
6. 15.4	Rich Bevly	1972
7. 15.9	Austen Everson	2006
8. 14.8	Anthony Thornton	1988
9. 14.3	Dontrell Jackson	1999
10. 14.1	Rich Bevly	1974

Career (min. 100 completions)

1. 16.7	Kareem Wilson	1995-98
2. 15.5	Bill Frederick	1951-54
3. 15.2	Rich Bevly	1972-74
4. 15.1	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
5. 14.0	Steve Skiver	1968-70
6. 13.9	Dontrell Jackson	1999-02
7. 13.0	Wes Danyo	1963-65
13.0	Andy Vetter	1974-77
13.0	Brad Bower	2006-07
10. 12.7	Anthony Thornton	1987-90
12.7	Boo Jackson	2008-10

Highest Passing Efficiency

Season (min. 75 attempts)

1. 148.6	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2. 139.4	Bob Babbitt	1962
3. 137.8	Boo Jackson	2008
4. 136.8	Tyler Tettleton	2012
5. 136.2	Boo Jackson	2010
6. 131.1	Cleve Bryant	1968
7. 129.4	Bob Babbitt	1961
8. 128.5	Theo Scott	2009
9. 128.3	Fred Ray	2002
10. 125.7	Brad Bower	2007

Career (min. 200 attempts)

1. 141.0	Tyler Tettleton	2009-present
1. 136.2	Boo Jackson	2008- 10
2. 126.1	Theo Scott	2007-09
3. 119.9	Andy Vetter	1974-77
4. 117.7	Brad Bower	2006-07
5. 114.5	Fred Ray	2000-03
6. 113.7	Ryan Hawk	2003-04
7. 112.6	Donny Harrison	1979-83
8. 111.0	Sammy Shon	1978-81
9. 109.4	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
10. 109.2	Bill Frederick	1951-54



PASSING RECORDS

Passing Leaders by Class

Freshmen*

1.	949	Anthony Thornton	1987
2.	745	Dontrell Jackson	1999
3.	657	Kareem Wilson	1995
4.	491	Austen Everson	2003
5.	208	Dennis Swearingen	1982

Sophomores

1.	3,302	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2.	1,336	Sammy Shon	1979
3.	1,162	Anthony Thornton	1988
4.	1,157	Cleve Bryant	1967
5.	881	Dontrell Jackson	2000

Juniors

1.	2,513	Tyler Tettleton	2012
2.	2,355	Boo Jackson	2008
3.	1,855	Tom Dubs	1991
4.	1,527	Sammy Shon	1980
5.	1,524	Cleve Bryant	1968

Seniors

1.	2,366	Sammy Shon	1981
2.	2,309	Donny Harrison	1983
3.	2,281	Bruce Porter	1986
4.	2,258	Theo Scott	2009
5.	2,056	Dennis Swearingen	1985

*Freshman were not eligible for varsity competition until 1972.

Longest Passing Play

1.	98 (TD)	Tom Dubs to Richard Hill vs. Kent State	1991
2.	89 (TD)	Austen Everson to Scott Mayle vs. Kentucky	2004
3.	83 (TD)	Austen Everson to Anthony Hackett vs. Miami	2003
4.	80 (TD)	Ryan Hawk to Scott Mayle vs. Iowa State	2003
	80 (TD)	Ryan Hawk to Scott Mayle vs. Buffalo	2003
6.	79 (TD)	Tyler Tettleton to Donte' Foster vs. EMU	2012
7.	78 (TD)	Tyler Tettleton to LaVon Brazill vs. Akron	2011
8.	77 (TD)	Boo Jackson to Chris Garrett vs. Central Michigan	2008
9.	76	Cleve Bryant to Todd Snyder vs. Miami	1967
10.	75 (TD)	Dontrell Jackson to Chad Brinker vs. Western Michigan	2000

Annual Leaders

Year	Player	Yards	Comp.	Att.	Pct.	TD	INT	Effic.
1950	Tom Anderson	633	42	111	47.8	6	12	82.0
1951	Larry Lawrence	407	33	95	34.7	2	8	60.8
1952	Bill Frederick	845	49	115	42.6	8	11	108.2
1953	Bill Frederick	627	45	89	50.6	8	11	114.7
1954	Bill Frederick	404	27	68	39.7	5	2	108.0
1955	Don McBride	499	42	76	55.3	1	4	104.2
1956	Records Incomplete							
1957	Records Incomplete							
1958	Records Incomplete							
1959	Records Incomplete							
1960	Dave Wagner	554	28	55	50.9	4	1	155.9
1961	Bob Babbitt	573	41	75	54.7	3	1	129.4
1962	Bob Babbitt	1,010	57	113	50.4	9	7	139.4
1963	Wes Danyo	635	42	108	38.9	2	8	79.6
1964	Larry Bainter	443	30	79	38.0	2	3	85.8
1965	Sam Fornsaglio	305	26	51	51.0	3	3	108.9
1966	Ron Delucca	655	44	111	39.6	6	6	96.2
1967	Cleve Bryant	1,157	68	180	37.8	8	15	89.8
1968	Cleve Bryant	1,524	98	200	49.0	14	5	131.1
1969	Steve Skiver	749	47	109	43.1	2	7	94.1
1970	Steve Skiver	1,417	107	229	46.7	8	22	91.0
1971	Dave Juenger	922	80	163	49.1	8	6	105.4
1972	Rich Bevely	865	56	132	42.4	9	10	104.8
1973	Rich Bevely	1,007	62	147	42.2	6	7	103.7
1974	Rich Bevely	1,001	71	173	41.0	5	6	92.2
1975	Rick Lilienthal	1,045	87	198	43.9	4	9	85.8
1976	Andy Vetter	877	71	135	52.6	7	10	109.5
1977	Andy Vetter	1,548	116	202	57.4	10	13	125.3
1978	Mike Scimea	483	40	93	43.0	2	9	74.4
1979	Sammy Shon	1,336	133	220	60.5	4	11	107.5
1980	Sammy Shon	1,527	131	235	55.7	5	14	105.4
1981	Sammy Shon	2,366	175	320	54.7	14	17	120.6
1982	Donny Harrison	1,308	114	198	57.6	7	8	116.7
1983	Donny Harrison	2,309	203	357	56.9	10	16	111.5
1984	Dennis Swearingen	1,211	117	185	63.2	4	9	115.6
1985	Dennis Swearingen	2,056	195	383	50.9	13	26	93.6
1986	Bruce Porter	2,281	216	383	56.4	13	14	110.3
1987	Anthony Thornton	949	75	180	41.7	1	3	84.5
1988	Anthony Thornton	1,162	78	187	41.7	4	15	84.9
1989	Anthony Thornton	1,502	120	234	51.3	6	13	102.6
1990	Anthony Thornton	1,586	135	228	59.2	6	9	118.4
1991	Tom Dubs	1,855	144	264	54.5	6	10	113.5
1992	Tom Dubs	712	57	139	41.0	5	4	90.1
1993	D.R. Robinson	844	81	148	54.7	3	6	101.2
1994	Sam Vink	944	90	195	46.2	4	11	82.3
1995	Kareem Wilson	657	48	130	36.9	3	6	77.8
1996	Kareem Wilson	567	38	90	44.2	7	2	116.4
1997	Kareem Wilson	369	14	54	25.9	3	2	94.3
1998	Kareem Wilson	512	26	71	36.6	4	6	98.9
1999	Dontrell Jackson	745	52	113	46.0	6	3	113.6
2000	Dontrell Jackson	881	54	119	45.4	8	8	116.3
2001	Dontrell Jackson	559	44	83	53.0	2	3	110.3
2002	Fred Ray	712	56	100	56.0	5	2	128.3
2003	Ryan Hawk	765	49	100	49.0	4	3	120.5
2004	Ryan Hawk	1,585	137	262	52.3	10	6	111.1
2005	Austen Everson	1,151	105	220	47.7	4	11	87.7
2006	Austen Everson	1,356	253	137	54.2	7	8	102.0
2007	Brad Bower	1,766	127	345	54.7	11	10	125.7
2008	Boo Jackson	2,355	185	306	60.5	19	12	137.8
2009	Theo Scott	2,369	199	344	57.8	20	11	128.5
2010	Boo Jackson	1,897	149	245	60.8	18	17	136.2
2011	Tyler Tettleton	3,302	267	415	64.3	28	10	148.6
2012	Tyler Tettleton	2,513	214	345	62.0	16	3	136.8



RECEIVING RECORDS



LaVon Brazill enjoyed a record-setting career at Ohio and in 2011 he broke the all-time career receiving mark. Former Bobcat Todd Snyder (1967-68) had held the record had stood over 40 years.

Most Receptions

Game

1.	14	Taylor Price vs. Wyoming	2008
2.	12	Chris Jackson vs. Miami	2004
	12	Cyle Feldman vs. C. Michigan	1986
	12	Bobby Cameron vs. Kent St.	1986
	12	Todd Snyder vs. Minnesota	1969
6.	11	Donte Foster vs. E. Michigan	2012
	11	Tom Compennolle vs. N. Illinois	1986
	11	Eddie Washington vs. Bowling Green	1983
	11	Dave Juenger vs. W. Michigan	1970
	11	Todd Snyder vs. Richmond	1968
	11	Todd Snyder vs. Dayton	1968

Season

1.	74	LaVon Brazill	2011
2.	68	Eddie Washington	1983
3.	62	Todd Snyder	1969
4.	61	Tom Compennolle	1986
5.	56	Donte Foster	2012
	56	Taylor Price	2009
7.	53	LaVon Brazill	2009
8.	51	Taylor Price	2008
9.	50	Bobby Cameron	1986
	50	Mike Green	1975

Career

1.	189	LaVon Brazill	2007-11
2.	145	Taylor Price	2006-2009
3.	144	Tom Compennolle	1983-86
4.	140	Todd Snyder	1967-69
5.	127	Eddie Washington	1980-83
6.	107	Scott Mayle	2002-06
7.	105	Mark Geisler	1976-79
8.	103	Bob Allen	1969-71
9.	102	Courtney Burton	1990-93

Most Yards Gained

Game

1.	214	Todd Snyder vs. Richmond*	1968
2.	203	Todd Snyder vs. Dayton	1968
3.	176	Tom Compennolle vs. N. Illinois	1986
4.	175	Chris Jenkins vs. W. Michigan	1993
5.	169	Jim Albert vs. Iowa State	1962
6.	165	LaVon Brazill vs. Temple	2011
	165	Dave Juenger vs. W. Michigan	1970
8.	164	Todd Snyder vs. Kansas	1967
9.	157	LaVon Brazill vs. Ball St.	2011
	157	Scott Mayle vs. Kentucky	2004

*Tangerine Bowl

Season

1.	1,146	LaVon Brazill	2011
2.	866	Eddie Washington	1983
3.	863	Richard Hill	1991
4.	835	Todd Snyder	1969
5.	784	Taylor Price	2009
6.	777	Todd Snyder	1968
7.	702	LaVon Brazill	2009
8.	699	Bob Allen	1970
9.	694	Taylor Price	2008
10.	642	Mike Green	1975

Career

1.	2,511	LaVon Brazill	2007-11
2.	2,241	Todd Snyder	1967-69
3.	2,019	Taylor Price	2006-2009
4.	1,847	Scott Mayle	2002-06
5.	1,761	Eddie Washington	1980-83
6.	1,620	Tom Compennolle	1983-86
7.	1,459	Bob Allen	1969-71
8.	1,374	Courtney Burton	1990-93
9.	1,288	Mike Green	1972-75
10.	1,188	Mark Geisler	1976-79

Most Receptions Per Game

Season (min. 5 games)

1.	6.20	Todd Snyder	1969
2.	6.18	Eddie Washington	1983
3.	6.10	Tom Compennolle	1986
4.	5.33	Bob Allen	1970
5.	5.28	LaVon Brazill	2011
6.	5.11	Dave Juenger	1970
7.	5.09	Donte Foster	2012
8.	4.60	Todd Snyder	1968
9.	4.55	Bobby Cameron	1986
	4.55	Mike Green	1975

Career (min. 20 games)

1.	4.67	Todd Snyder	1967-69
2.	3.85	LaVon Brazill	2007-11
2.	3.55	Bob Allen	1969-71
3.	3.35	Tom Compennolle	1983-86
4.	3.22	LaVon Brazill	2007-present
5.	2.89	Eddie Washington	1980-83
6.	2.87	Taylor Price	2006-2009
7.	2.75	Mike Green	1973-75
8.	2.70	Dave Juenger	1970-72
9.	2.60	Donte Foster	2010-present
10.	2.58	Bill Seder	1983-85

Most Touchdowns

Game

1.	3	Taylor Price vs. Akron	2008
	3	Dave Juenger vs. Toledo	1972
	3	Todd Snyder vs. Minnesota	1969
	3	Todd Snyder vs. Richmond*	1968
5.	2	Several Times	
		Last: Donte Foster	2012
		vs. E. Michigan	

*Tangerine Bowl

Season

1.	11	LaVon Brazill	2011
2.	9	Terrence McCrae	2010
	9	Terrence McCrae	2009
	9	Andrew Mooney#	2007
5.	8	Todd Snyder	1969
6.	7	Bob Houmard	1968
	7	Lou Sawchik	1953
7.	Donte Foster	2012	
9.	6	LaVon Brazill	2009
	6	Tom Compennolle	1985
	6	Dave Juenger	1972

Career

1.	19	Terrence McCrae	2007-2010
2.	18	LaVon Brazill	2007-11
3.	15	Todd Snyder	1967-69
4.	14	Taylor Price	2006-09
5.	13	Donte Foster	2010-present
6.	12	Andrew Mooney#	2007-08
	12	Tom Compennolle	1983-86
8.	11	Scott Mayle	2002-06
	11	Lou Sawchik	1951-53
10.	10	Courtney Burton	1990-93
	10	Dave Juenger	1970-72
	10	Raynald Ray	1997-00

Tight End

Most Yards Per Catch

Season (min. 10 catches)

1.	21.71	Jim Albert	1962
2.	21.58	John Summers	1977
3.	21.18	Raynald Ray	1999
4.	20.60	Scott Mayle	2003
5.	20.53	Raynald Ray	2000

Career (min. 25 catches)

1.	21.95	Raynald Ray	1997-00
2.	19.45	Cleveland Moutry	1972
3.	18.67	Ken Smith	1960-62
4.	17.59	Byron Cross	1987-90
5.	17.46	Jay Maupin	1965-67
6.	17.26	Scott Mayle	2002-06
7.	17.11	Richard Hill	1990-91
8.	16.66	Lou Sawchik	1952-53
9.	16.59	Jim Albert	1961-63
10.	16.01	Todd Snyder	1967-69



RECEIVING RECORDS

Receiving Leaders by Class - Receptions

Freshmen*

1.	25	Scott Mayle	2003
2.	22	Riley Dunlop	2008
3.	19	Robert Henton	1981
4.	16	Pat Welsh	1984

Sophomores

1.	46	Dave Juenger	1970
2.	42	Mark Geisler	1977
3.	39	Chris Jackson	2004
4.	36	Tom Compernelle	1984
5.	33	Scott Mayle	2004

Juniors

1.	53	LaVon Brazill	2009
2.	51	Taylor Price	2008
3.	50	Bobby Cameron	1986
3.	48	Bob Allen	1970
5.	46	Tom Compernelle	1985
	46	Nigel Turpin	1977

Seniors

1.	74	LaVon Brazill	2011
2.	68	Eddie Washington	1983
3.	62	Todd Snyder	1969
4.	61	Tom Compernelle	1986
5.	56	Taylor Price	2009

Receiving Leaders by Class - Yards

Freshmen*

1.	515	Scott Mayle	2003
2.	325	Robert Henton	1981
3.	278	Riley Dunlop	2008
4.	186	Pat Welsh	1984
5.	172	Kalvin McRae	2004

Sophomores

1.	629	Todd Snyder	1967
2.	583	Scott Mayle	2004
3.	540	Dave Juenger	1970
4.	489	Mark Geisler	1977
5.	459	Tom Compernelle	1984

Juniors

1.	777	Todd Snyder	1968
2.	702	LaVon Brazill	2009
3.	699	Robert Allen	1970
4.	694	Taylor Price	2008
5.	629	Donte' Foster	2012

Seniors

1.	1,146	LaVon Brazill	2011
2.	866	Eddie Washington	1983
3.	863	Richard Hill	1991
4.	835	Todd Snyder	1969
5.	784	Taylor Price	2009

*Freshman were not eligible for varsity competition until 1972.

Annual Leaders (sorted by receptions)

Year	Player	Rec.	Yards	Avg.	TDs
1950	Nick Fogoros	16	177	11.1	1
1951	Gene Nuxhall	21	236	11.2	0
1952	Lou Sawchik	27	472	17.5	4
1953	Lou Sawchik	32	511	16.0	7
1954	Dave Lundberg	8	90	11.2	1
1955	James Krager	16	235	14.7	0
1956	Records Incomplete				
1957	Records Incomplete				
1958	Records Incomplete				
1959	Records Incomplete				
1960	Bob Harrison	11	153	13.9	1
1961	John Trevis	16	258	16.1	3
1962	Ron Curtis	17	286	16.8	5
1963	Jim Albert	13	186	14.3	2
1964	Jim Dorna	15	162	10.8	1
1965	Glenn Hill	14	201	14.4	0
1966	Jay Maupin	26	447	17.2	3
1967	Todd Snyder	32	629	19.7	4
1968	Todd Snyder	46	777	16.9	3
1969	Todd Snyder	62	835	13.5	8
1970	Bob Allen	48	699	14.6	4
1971	Bob Allen	37	485	13.1	5
1972	Dave Juenger	32	508	15.9	6
1973	Mike Green	22	425	19.3	3
1974	Rick Lilienthal	22	315	14.3	1
1975	Mike Green	50	642	12.8	3
1976	John Barrington	20	211	10.6	2
1977	Nigel Turpin	46	624	13.6	2
1978	Mark Geisler	25	244	9.8	1
1979	Tony Carifa	45	380	8.4	1
1980	Tony Carifa	46	427	9.3	1
1981	Shawn Silcott	39	573	14.7	2
1982	Eddie Washington	37	524	14.2	2
1983	Eddie Washington	68	866	12.7	5
1984	Tom Compernelle	36	459	12.8	2
1985	Tom Compernelle	46	524	11.4	6
1986	Tom Compernelle	61	626	10.3	4
1987	Cyle Feldman	21	302	14.4	0
1988	Byron Cross	20	342	17.1	2
1989	Jim Swanson	37	503	13.6	1
1990	Gerald Harris	33	497	15.1	2
1991	Richard Hill	49	863	17.6	3
1992	Chris Jenkins	38	550	14.5	5
1993	Courtney Burton	31	366	11.8	3
1994	Dewight Pickens	27	236	8.7	2
1995	Shawn Smith	8	192	24.0	1
1996	Damion Maxwell	17	184	10.8	2
1997	Damion Maxwell	7	180	25.7	1
1998	Damion Maxwell	14	194	13.9	1
1999	Raynald Ray	22	466	21.2	4
2000	Raynald Ray	15	308	20.5	3
2001	Joe Mohler	21	269	12.8	2
2002	Stafford Owens	17	259	15.2	2
2003	Anthony Hackett	26	452	17.4	2
2004	Chris Jackson	39	390	10.0	0
2005	Scott Mayle	21	338	16.1	3
2006	Kalvin McRae	29	280	9.7	1
2007	Andrew Mooney	34	498	14.6	9
2008	Taylor Price	51	694	13.6	5
2009	Taylor Price	56	784	14.0	5
2010	Terrence McCrae	35	505	14.4	9
2011	LaVon Brazill	74	1,146	15.5	10
2012	Donte Foster	56	629	11.2	7



TOTAL OFFENSE

Most Yards Gained

Game

1. 413	Boo Jackson vs. CMU	2008
2. 395	Sammy Shon vs. E. Michigan	1980
3. 393	Theo Scott vs. Temple	2009
4. 386	Donny Harrison vs. Kent St.	1983
5. 375	Donny Harrison vs. Bowling Green	1983
6. 371	Tyler Tettleton vs. Penn State	2012
371	Tyler Tettleton vs. Rutgers	2011
8. 365	Cleve Bryant vs. Cincinnati	1968
9. 363	Austen Everson vs. N. Illinois	2006
10. 360	Boo Jackson vs. Buffalo	2008

Season

1. 3,960	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2. 2,723	Tyler Tettleton	2012
3. 2,688	Boo Jackson	2008
4. 2,643	Sammy Shon	1981
5. 2,403	Theo Scott	2009
6. 2,388	Donny Harrison	1983
7. 2,258	Cleve Bryant	1968
8. 2,242	Boo Jackson	2010
9. 2,093	Bruce Porter	1986
10. 1,942	Dennis Swearingen	1985

Career

1. 6,787	Tyler Tettleton	2009-present
2. 6,753	Anthony Thornton	1987-90
3. 6,262	Sammy Shon	1978-81
4. 5,702	Kareem Wilson	1995-98
5. 5,145	Boo Jackson	2008-10
6. 4,946	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
7. 4,653	Dontrell Jackson	1999-02
8. 4,398	Kalvin McRae	2004-07
9. 4,372	Austen Everson	2003-06
10. 4,317	Donny Harrison	1979-83

Most Plays

Game

1. 79	Donny Harrison vs. Bowling Green	1983
2. 71	Dennis Swearingen vs. Ball St.	1985
3. 63	Andy Vetter vs. Kent St.	1977
4. 61	Bruce Porter vs. W. Michigan	1986
5. 60	Bruce Porter vs. C. Michigan	1986
6. 59	Theo Scott vs. Tennessee	2009
59	Dennis Swearingen vs. Bowling Green	1985
8. 55	Boo Jackson vs. Northwestern	2008
55	Donny Harrison vs. Kent St.	1983
10. 53	Tyler Tettleton vs. Kent St.	2011

Season

1. 581	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2. 528	Donny Harrison	1983
3. 487	Dennis Swearingen	1985
4. 473	Sammy Shon	1981
5. 461	Tyler Tettleton	2012
6. 428	Bruce Porter	1986
7. 406	Boo Jackson	2008
8. 387	Theo Scott	2009
9. 381	Cleve Bryant	1968
10. 379	Boo Jackson	2010

Career

1. 1,343	Anthony Thornton	1987-90
2. 1,249	Sammy Shon	1978-81
3. 1,230	Kareem Wilson	1995-98
4. 968	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
5. 942	Donny Harrison	1979-83
6. 937	Rich Bevely	1972-74
7. 917	Austen Everson	2003-06
8. 910	Dontrell Jackson	1999-02
9. 905	Kalvin McRae	2004-07
10. 835	Boo Jackson	2008-10



In his first season as a starter in 2011, quarterback Tyler Tettleton set Ohio's all-time total offense record as he totaled 3,960 yards. He also accounted for 38 total touchdowns in 2011.

Most Yards Per Play

Season (min. 100 plays)

1. 7.34	Erland Ahlberg	1954
2. 6.81	Tyler Tettleton	2011
3. 6.62	Boo Jackson	2008
4. 6.56	Bob Babbitt	1962
5. 6.37	Dontrell Jackson	2000
6. 6.21	Theo Scott	2009
7. 6.08	Dave Wagner	1960
8. 5.95	Fred Ray	2003
9. 5.93	Cleve Bryant	1968
10. 5.92	Boo Jackson	2010

Career

1. 6.27	Tyler Tettleton	2009-present
2. 6.16	Boo Jackson	2008-10
3. 5.98	Theo Scott	2007-09
4. 5.81	Bob Babbitt	1960-62
5. 5.79	Brad Bower	2006-07
6. 5.60	Jamel Patterson	1998-01
7. 5.35	Chad Brinker	1999-02
8. 5.32	Fred Ray	2000-03
9. 5.13	Steveland Hookfin	1995-98
10. 5.11	Dontrell Jackson	1999-02

Most Yards Per Game

Season (min. 5 games)

1. 282.9	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2. 247.5	Tyler Tettleton	2012
3. 240.3	Sammy Shon	1981
4. 225.8	Cleve Bryant	1968
5. 224.0	Boo Jackson	2008
6. 217.1	Donny Harrison	1983
7. 209.3	Bruce Porter	1986
8. 187.4	Steve Skiver	1970
9. 184.9	Theo Scott	2009
10. 180.4	Anthony Thornton	1989

Career (min. 20 games)

1. 193.9	Tyler Tettleton	2009-present
2. 190.6	Boo Jackson	2008-10
3. 164.9	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
4. 160.8	Anthony Thornton	1987-90
5. 142.3	Sammy Shon	1987-81
6. 140.8	Theo Scott	2007-2009
7. 134.0	Rich Bevely	1972-74
8. 129.6	Kareem Wilson	1995-98
9. 119.3	Dontrell Jackson	1999-02
10. 115.1	Austen Everson	2003-06

Total Offense Leaders by Class

Freshmen*

1. 1,550	Kareem Wilson	1995
2. 1,473	Anthony Thornton	1987
3. 1,273	Dontrell Jackson	1999
4. 731	David Houseton	1973
5. 673	Austen Everson	2003

Sophomores

1. 3,960	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2. 1,745	Dontrell Jackson	2000
3. 1,737	Anthony Thornton	1988
4. 1,639	Kareem Wilson	1996
5. 1,590	Sammy Shon	1979

Juniors

1. 2,723	Tyler Tettleton	2012
2. 2,688	Boo Jackson	2008
3. 2,258	Cleve Bryant	1968
4. 1,804	Sammy Shon	1980
1,804	Anthony Thornton	1989

Seniors

1. 2,643	Sammy Shon	1981
2. 2,403	Theo Scott	2009
3. 2,388	Donny Harrison	1983
4. 2,242	Boo Jackson	2010
5. 2,093	Bruce Porter	1986

*Freshman were not eligible for varsity competition until 1972.



ALL-PURPOSE RECORDS

Most Yards Gained

Game

1. 322	Donte' Harden vs. Temple	2011
2. 321	Chris Garrett vs. Miami	2008
3. 298	Tony Carifa vs. E. Michigan	1980
4. 282	Kareem Wilson vs. Bowling Green	1996
5. 280	Beau Blankenship vs. UMass	2012
6. 279	Nigel Turpin vs. Kent St.	1977
7. 275	Dick Conley vs. Marshall	1966
8. 271	Kalvin McRae vs. Ball St.	2005
9. 257	Arnold Welcher vs. Marshall	1975
10. 252	Tim Worner vs. Toledo	1972

Season

1. 1,873	Donte' Harden	2011
2. 1,787	Andrew Greer	1988
3. 1,770	Andrew Greer	1989
4. 1,709	Kalvin McRae	2007
5. 1,677	Beau Blankenship	2012
6. 1,532	Kalvin McRae	2006
7. 1,447	Chris Garrett	2008
8. 1,420	Arnold Welcher	1975
9. 1,400	LaVon Brazill	2011
10. 1,391	Chris Garrett	2009

Career

1. 5,248	Kalvin McRae	2004-07
2. 4,489	Chris Garrett	2006-09
3. 4,123	Stevland Hookfin	1995-98
4. 4,030	Chad Brinker	1999-02
5. 3,831	Donte' Harden	2007-11
6. 3,597	Kareem Wilson	1995-98
7. 3,559	Scott Mayle	2002-06
8. 3,557	Andrew Greer	1988-89
9. 3,462	LaVon Brazill	2007-11
10. 3,445	Tim Curtis	1990-93

Most Yards Per Game

Season (min. 5 games)

1. 162.5	Andrew Greer	1988
2. 160.9	Andrew Greer	1989
3. 156.1	Donte' Harden	2011
4. 142.4	Kalvin McRae	2007
5. 141.2	Bill Gary	1970
6. 139.8	Beau Blankenship	2012
7. 132.2	Dick Conley	1967
8. 131.5	Chris Garrett	2008
9. 129.1	Arnold Welcher	1975
10. 120.7	Dave LeVeck	1968

Career (min. 20 games)

1. 161.7	Andrew Greer	1988-89
2. 109.3	Kalvin McRae	2004-07
3. 106.1	Chad Brinker	1999-02
4. 100.8	Donte' Harden	2007-11
5. 94.8	Jim Albert	1961-63
6. 93.7	Stevland Hookfin	1995-98
7. 91.6	Chris Garrett	2006-09
8. 91.1	Todd Snyder	1967-69
9. 90.1	Dick Conley	1967-68
10. 87.6	Dave LeVeck	1967-69



Former Ohio running back Donte' Harden racked up 322 yards of total offense (184 yards rushing, 75 yards receiving and 63 return yards) in front of a national television audience on ESPN as the Bobcats posted a thrilling 35-31 victory over Temple inside Peden Stadium.

Miscellaneous

Game

100 Yards Rushing/100 Yards Receiving

Tony Carifa	158 rush/140 rec.	
vs. Eastern Michigan		1980

Season

400 Yards Rushing/400 Yards Receiving

Raynald Ray	477 rush/466 rec.	1999
Tony Carifa	853 rush/427 rec.	1980

400 Yards Rushing/400 Yards Kickoff Returns

Donte' Harden	986 rush/620 KOR	2011
Chris Garrett	591 rush/676 KOR	2009
Chris Garrett	554 rush/618 KOR	2008
Chad Brinker	600 rush/486 KOR	1999
Andrew Greer	905 rush/638 KOR	1989
Andrew Greer	863 rush/810 KOR	1988
Dick Conley	841 rush/428 KOR	1967

400 Yards Receiving/400 Yards Kickoff Returns

Nigel Turpin	624 rec./521 KOR	1977
Bob Allen	485 rec./421 KOR	1971

All-Purpose Leaders by Class

Freshmen*

1. 1,109	Chad Brinker	1999
2. 893	Kareem Wilson	1995
3. 811	Scott Mayle	2003
4. 809	Chris Garrett	2006
5. 798	Stevland Hookfin	1995

Sophomores

1. 1,420	Arnold Welcher	1975
2. 1,271	Bill Gary	1970
3. 1,250	Kalvin McRae	2005
4. 1,231	Chad Brinker	2000
5. 1,138	Stevland Hookfin	1996

Juniors

1. 1,787	Andrew Greer	1988
2. 1,677	Beau Blankenship	2012
3. 1,447	Chris Garrett	2008
4. 1,532	Kalvin McRae	2006
5. 1,322	Dick Conley	1967

Seniors

1. 1,873	Donte' Harden	2011
2. 1,770	Andrew Greer	1989
3. 1,709	Kalvin McRae	2007
4. 1,400	LaVon Brazill	2011
5. 1,391	Chris Garrett	2009

*Freshman were not eligible for varsity competition until 1972.



SCORING RECORDS

Most Points Scored

Game

1.	33	Eller Armbrust vs. Rio Grande	1937
2.	24	Chad Brinker vs. E. Michigan	2002
	24	Kareem Wilson vs. Bowling Green	1996
	24	Tim Curtis vs. Kent St.	1991
	24	Andy Vetter vs. N. Illinois	1976
	24	Dick Conley vs. Marshall	1966
	24	Jim Albert vs. W. Michigan	1963
	24	Kalvin McRae vs. Louis.-Lafay.	2007

Season

1.	123	Matt Weller	2011
2.	120	Kalvin McRae	2007
3.	114	Bob Houmard	1968
4.	109	Matt Weller	2012
5.	98	Kalvin McRae	2006
	98	Michael Braunstein	2007
7.	95	Matt Weller	2009
8.	88	Kareem Wilson	1996
9.	78	Kareem Wilson	1998
	78	Andy Vetter	1976

Career

1.	400	Matt Weller	2009-present
2.	302	Kareem Wilson	1995-98
3.	296	Kalvin McRae	2004-07
4.	229	Kevin Kerr	1999-02
5.	184	Chad Brinker	1999-02
6.	176	Stevland Hookfin	1995-98
	176	Steve Green	1976-79
8.	162	Bob Houmard	1966-68
9.	160	Gary Homer	1972-75
10.	152	Andy Vetter	1974-77

Most Touchdowns Scored

Game

1.	4	Kalvin McRae vs. Louis.-Laf.	2007
	4	Chad Brinker vs. E. Michigan	2002
	4	Kareem Wilson vs. Bowling Green	1996
	4	Tim Curtis vs. Kent St.	1991
	4	Andy Vetter vs. N. Illinois	1976
	4	Dick Conley vs. Marshall	1966
	4	Jim Albert vs. W. Michigan	1963

Season

1.	20	Kalvin McRae	2007
2.	19	Bob Houmard	1968
3.	16	Kalvin McRae	2006
4.	14	Kareem Wilson	1996
5.	13	Kareem Wilson	1998
	13	Andy Vetter	1976
7.	12	Beau Blankenship	2012
	12	LaVon Brazill	2011
	12	Chad Brinker	2000
	12	Kareem Wilson	1997
	12	Dave Juenger	1971

Career

1.	49	Kalvin McRae	2004-07
	49	Kareem Wilson	1995-98
3.	30	Chad Brinker	1999-02
4.	29	Stevland Hookfin	1995-98
5.	27	Bob Houmard	1966-68
6.	25	Andy Vetter	1974-77
7.	23	LaVon Brazill	2007-11
8.	22	Dave Juenger	1970-72
9.	21	Raynald Ray	1997-00
10.	20	Cleve Bryant	1967-69



Kevin Kerr's (right) 229 career points rank third all-time at Ohio and are the most ever by a Bobcat Kicker. Andy Vetter (right) accounted for a school-record seven touchdowns against Northern Illinois in 1976. Vetter ran for four scores and passed for three more.

Most Touchdowns Responsible For

Game

1.	7	Andy Vetter vs. Northern Illinois	1976
		(4 rushing, 3 passing)	
2.	5	Theo Scott vs. Temple	2009
		(3 passing, 2 rushing)	
	5	Boo Jackson vs. Akron	2008
		(5 passing)	
4.	4	Several Times	
		Last time: Tyler Tettleton vs. Temple	2011
		(3 passing, 1 rushing)	

Season

1.	38	Tyler Tettleton	2011
2.	26	Boo Jackson	2010
3.	23	Theo Scott	2009
4.	22	Cleve Bryant	1968
5.	21	Tyler Tettleton	2012
	21	Boo Jackson	2008
	21	Kareem Wilson	1996
	21	Andy Vetter	1977
9.	20	Kalvin McRae	2007
	20	Andy Vetter	1976
	20	Dave Juenger	1971

Career

1.	66	Kareem Wilson	1995-98
2.	60	Tyler Tettleton	2009-present
3.	49	Kalvin McRae	2004-07
	49	Cleve Bryant	1967-69
5.	47	Boo Jackson	2008-2010
6.	44	Andy Vetter	1974-77
7.	41	Sammy Shon	1978-81
8.	33	Chad Brinker	1999-02
9.	31	Anthony Thornton	1987-90
	31	Dave Juenger	1970-72

Most Field Goals

Game

1.	5	Matt Weller vs. Bowling Green	2011
2.	4	Barrett Way vs. Kent State	2008
	4	Michael Braunstein vs. Wyoming	2007
4.	3	26 Times	

Last: Matt Weller vs. UMass 2012

Season

1.	25	Matt Weller	2011
2.	22	Matt Weller	2012
3.	21	Matt Weller	2009
4.	20	Michael Braunstein	2007
5.	14	Mike Fultz	1987
6.	13	Barrett Way	2008
	13	Matt Lasher	2006
8.	12	Kevin Kerr	2000
	12	Steve Green	1979
	12	Gary Homer	1975

Career

1.	79	Matt Weller	2009-present
2.	38	Kevin Kerr	1999-02
3.	28	Steve Green	1976-79
	28	Gary Homer	1972-75
5.	25	Jeff Marchant	1990-93
	25	Chris Judge	1984-86
	25	Ron Harter	1980-83
8.	21	Brian Huston	1995-98
	20	Michael Braunstein	2007
	20	Jim Delverne	1988-89
	20	Mike Fultz	1984-87



SCORING RECORDS

Most Field Goals Attempted

Game

1.	6	Matt Weller vs. Norfolk State	2012
2.	5	Matt Weller vs. Ball State	2009
	5	Michael Braunstein vs. Temple	2007
	5	Gary Homer vs. Kent St.	1975
	5	Matt Weller vs. Bowling Green	2011
6.	4	Matt Weller vs. Tennessee	2009
	4	Barrett Way vs. VMI	2008
	4	Barrett Way vs. Kent State	2008
	4	Michael Braunstein vs. Wyo.	2007
	4	Mike Fultz vs. Miami	1987
	4	Chris Judge vs. Toledo	1984
	4	Chris Judge vs. E. Michigan	1984
	4	Ron Harter vs. Bowling Green	1981

Season

1.	34	Matt Weller	2011
2.	29	Matt Weller	2009
3.	24	Michael Braunstein	2007
4.	23	Gary Homer	1975
5.	22	Matt Weller	2012
6.	19	Barrett Way	2008
7.	18	Matt Lasher	2006
	18	Kevin Kerr	2000
	18	Mike Fultz	1987
10.	16	Kevin Kerr	2002

Career

1.	107	Matt Weller	2009-present
2.	60	Gary Homer	1972-75
3.	59	Kevin Kerr	1999-02
4.	48	Steve Green	1976-79
5.	44	Ron Harter	1980-83
6.	42	Jeff Marchant	1990-93
7.	35	Brian Huston	1995-98
	35	Chris Judge	1984-86
9.	28	Jim Delverne	1988-89
	28	Mike Fultz	1984-87

Highest Field Goal Percentage

Season (min. 10 attempts)

1.	84.6 (11-13)	Jim Delverne	1989
2.	83.3 (20-24)	Michael Braunstein	2007
3.	81.8 (9-11)	Ron Harter	1981
4.	78.6 (11-14)	Matt Weller	2010
5.	77.8 (14-18)	Mike Fultz	1987
6.	75.0 (12-16)	Steve Green	1979
	75.0 (9-12)	Chris Judge	1984
8.	74.1 (20-27)	Matt Weller	2009
9.	73.5 (25-34)	Matt Weller	2011
10.	73.3 (22-30)	Matt Lasher	2006

Career (min. 15 attempts)

1.	83.3 (20-24)	Michael Braunstein	2007
2.	73.8 (79-107)	Matt Weller	2009-present
3.	72.2 (13-18)	Matt Lasher	2005-06
4.	71.4 (25-35)	Chris Judge	1984-86
	71.4 (20-28)	Jim Delverne	1988-89
	71.4 (20-28)	Mike Fultz	1984-87
7.	68.4 (13-19)	Barrett Way	2008
8.	66.7 (12-18)	Scott Roberts	1993-95
9.	64.4 (38-59)	Kevin Kerr	1999-02
10.	60.0 (21-35)	Brian Huston	1995-98

Consecutive Field Goals Made

1.	12	Michael Braunstein	2007
2.	10	Matt Lasher	2006
3.	8	Matt Weller	2009
	8	Mike Fultz	1987
	8	Barrett Way	2008

Longest Field Goal

Season

1.	57	Gary Homer vs. Penn St.	1973
2.	56	Brian Huston vs. Bowling Green	1997
3.	55	Kevin Kerr vs. Toledo	2001
	55	Kevin Kerr vs. Miami	1999
5.	54	Mike Fultz vs. E. Michigan	1987
6.	53	Kevin Kerr vs. Marshall	1999
	53	Ron Harter vs. C. Michigan	1982
8.	52	Matt Weller vs. Ball State	2009
	52	Jim McKee vs. Miami	1962
10.	51	Matt Weller at Kent State	2010
	51	Kevin Kerr vs. Akron	2001

Most PAT Kicks Made

Season

1.	48	Matt Weller	2011
2.	46	Bill Pataki	1968
3.	43	Matt Weller	2012
4.	40	Matt Weller	2010
5.	39	Kevin Kerr	2000
6.	38	Michael Braunstein	2007
7.	32	Matt Weller	2009
	32	Barrett Way	2008
	32	Steve Green	1976
10.	31	Kevin Kerr	2002

Career

1.	163	Matt Weller	2009-present
2.	115	Kevin Kerr	1999-02
3.	99	Bill Pataki	1966-68
4.	92	Steve Green	1976-79
5.	76	Gary Homer	1972-75
6.	65	Brian Huston	1995-98
7.	55	Ron Harter	1980-83
8.	44	Bill Bevan	1950-52
9.	38	Jim Kensinger	1969-70
10.	38	Michael Braunstein	2007

Most PAT Kicks Attempted

Season

1.	53	Bill Pataki	1968
2.	49	Matt Weller	2011
3.	44	Matt Weller	2010
4.	43	Matt Weller	2012
5.	42	Kevin Kerr	2000
6.	38	Michael Braunstein	2007
7.	36	Kevin Kerr	2002
8.	36	Matt Weller	2009
9.	35	Barrett Way	2008
10.	32	Matt Lasher	2006
	32	Greg DiMarino	2003

Career

1.	172	Matt Weller	2009-present
	129	Kevin Kerr	1999-02
3.	94	Steve Green	1976-79
4.	84	Gary Homer	1972-75
5.	79	Bill Pataki	1966-68
6.	69	Brian Huston	1995-98
7.	66	Ron Harter	1980-83
8.	58	Bill Bevan	1950-52
9.	44	Jim McKee	1960-62
10.	40	Jim Kensinger	1969-70



Place Kicker Matt Weller set six single season school records as a junior in 2011. He also holds three career records.

Highest PAT Percentage

Season (min. 10 attempts)

1.	100.0 (38-38)	Michael Braunstein	2007
	100.0 (38-38)	Michael Braunstein	2007
	100.0 (32-32)	Steve Green	1976
	100.0 (18-18)	Jim Delverne	1988
	100.0 (17-17)	Gary Homer	1973
	100.0 (11-11)	Mike Fultz	1987
	100.0 (11-11)	Steve Green	1978
	100.0 (10-10)	Brooks Rossman	2005
8.	97.9 (48-49)	Matt Weller	2011
9.	96.9 (31-32)	Brian Huston	1998
10.	96.4 (27-28)	Jim Kensinger	1969

Career (min. 25 attempts)

1.	100.0 (38-38)	Michael Braunstein	2007
2.	97.9 (92-94)	Steve Green	1976-79
3.	95.0 (38-40)	Jim Kensinger	1969-70
4.	94.2 (65-69)	Brian Huston	1995-98
5.	94.1 (32-34)	Jim Delverne	1988-89
6.	94.7 (163-172)	Matt Weller	2009-present
7.	91.4 (32-35)	Barrett Way	2008
8.	90.9 (30-33)	Chris Judge	1984-86
9.	90.6 (29-32)	Matt Lasher	2005-06
10.	90.5 (76-84)	Gary Homer	1972-75



PUNTING RECORDS

Most Punts

Season

1.	84	Matthew Miller	2005
2.	82	Brad Wojick	1993
3.	77	Matt Lasher	2006
4.	74	Steve Green	1978
5.	72	Mike Fultz	1986
	72	Art McCormick	1985
7.	70	Paul Hamilton	1995
	70	David Hoyng	1992
9.	67	Matthew Miller	2004
10.	65	Jon Beier	1996

Career

1.	238	Art McCormick	1982-85
2.	207	Dave Zastudil	1998-01
3.	203	Matthew Miller	2002-05
4.	183	Steve Green	1976-79
5.	176	Mike Green	1973-75
6.	160	Matt Schulte	2007-present
7.	148	Andy Grombacher	1988-91
8.	130	David Hoyng	1989-92
9.	127	Paul Hamilton	1994-95
10.	118	Paul Hershey	2008-11
	118	Jon Beier	1995-97



All-American punter Dave Zastudil owns the top four punting average games and seasons in Ohio history. He is the only player in Mid-American Conference history to lead the league in punting four times.

Most Punting Yards

Season

1.	3,245	Matthew Miller	2005
2.	3,055	Matt Lasher	2006
3.	3,022	Brad Wojick	1993
4.	2,925	Art McCormick	1985
5.	2,908	Steve Green	1978
6.	2,840	Matthew Miller	2004
7.	2,770	Mike Fultz	1986
8.	2,689	Paul Hamilton	1995
9.	2,595	Dave Zastudil	1999
10.	2,593	David Hoyng	1992

Career

1.	9,225	Dave Zastudil	1998-01
2.	9,082	Art McCormick	1982-85
3.	8,155	Matthew Miller	2002-05
4.	7,069	Steve Green	1976-79
5.	7,026	Mike Green	1973-75
6.	5,984	Matt Schulte	2007-2009
7.	5,392	Andy Grombacher	1988-91
8.	4,873	David Hoyng	1989-92
9.	4,862	Paul Hamilton	1994-95
10.	4,757	Paul Hershey	2008-11

Highest Punting Average

Game (min. 4 punts)

1.	56.5	Dave Zastudil vs. Buffalo	1999
2.	55.0	Dave Zastudil vs. C. Michigan	2001
3.	53.5	Dave Zastudil vs. Akron	1998
4.	53.3	Paul Hershey vs. Temple	2011
5.	52.2	Dave Zastudil vs. N. Illinois	1999
6.	51.2	Mike Green vs. Bowling Green	1975
7.	51.0	Paul Hershey vs. NMSU	2011
	51.0	Paul Hershey vs. Bowling Green	2010
9.	50.6	Dave Zastudil vs. Marshall	2001
10.	50.0	Paul Hershey vs. Utah State	2011

Season (min. 20 punts)

1.	45.60	Dave Zastudil	2001
2.	45.32	Dave Zastudil	1998
3.	44.34	Dave Zastudil	2000
4.	43.25	Dave Zastudil	1999
5.	42.94	Dave Green	1971
6.	42.39	Matthew Miller	2004
7.	41.78	Mike Green	1975
8.	41.45	Mike Green	1973
9.	41.05	Kevin Kerr	2002
10.	41.04	Paul Hershey	2010

Career (min. 100 punts)

1.	*44.57	Dave Zastudil	1998-01
2.	40.30	Paul Hershey	2008-11
3.	40.17	Matthew Miller	2002-05
4.	39.92	Mike Green	1973-75
5.	38.63	Steve Green	1976-79
6.	38.28	Paul Hamilton	1994-95
7.	38.18	Jon Beier	1995-97
8.	38.16	Art McCormick	1982-85
9.	37.48	David Hoyng	1989-92
10.	37.40	Matt Schulte	2007-2009

*MAC Record; Ranks tied for eighth in NCAA history among players with 150-249 career punts.



Art McCormick (top) is the Bobcats' all-time leader in career punts with 238 from 1982-85. Matthew Miller (bottom) was an honorable mention All-MAC choice in 2005 after setting school records with 84 punts and 2,245 yards.



PUNT RETURN RECORDS

Most Punt Returns Game

1. 7 Damion Maxwell vs. Bowling Green 1996
- 7 Sherman McBride vs. E. Michigan 1980
- 7 Dick Phillips vs. Western Reserve 1950
- 7 Chris Stefan vs. Bowling Green 1948
5. 6 LaVon Brazill vs Miami 2009
- 6 Chris Garrett vs. Buffalo 2006
- 6 Shawn Bonner vs. N. Illinois 1984
- 6 Todd Snyder vs. William & Mary 1968
9. 5 Several Times

Last: Ryan Clark vs. Norfolk State 2012

Season

1. 33 Raynald Ray 2000
2. 29 Sherman McBride 1980
3. 28 Raynald Ray 1999
4. 27 Stafford Owens 2002
- 27 Jim Givens 1978
- 27 Rick Hawkins 1971
7. 26 LaVon Brazill 2009
- 26 Chris Garrett 2006
- 26 Shawn Bonner 1985
10. 25 Ryan Clark 2012
- 25 LaVon Brazill 2011
- 25 Damion Maxwell 1996
- 25 Shawn Bonner 1984

Career

1. 70 Sherman McBride 1980-83
2. 64 Stafford Owens 2001-04
- 64 Raynald Ray 1997-00
4. 63 LaVon Brazill 2007-11
- 63 Shawn Bonner 1983-86
6. 60 Courtney Burton 1990-93
7. 57 Dion Byrum 2002-05
8. 54 Larry Hargrove 1987-89
9. 52 Jim Givens 1976-78
10. 47 Dick Phillips 1950-52



All-America cornerback Dion Byrum was also one of the most prolific punt returners in Ohio history. He ranks seventh all-time with 471 yards and his 8.26 yards-per-return average ranks ninth in the Bobcat record book.



Stafford Owens is the Bobcats' all-time leader with 713 punt return yards and three punt returns for touchdowns. Owens is one of three Ohio players to average at least 11 yards per return on a minimum of 25 attempts.

Most Punt Return Yards

Game

1. 153 Dick Phillips vs. Western Reserve 1950
2. 109 Stafford Owens vs. Akron 2004
3. 108 Larry Hargrove vs. Kent St. 1989
4. 102 Bob Anderson vs. West Texas St. 1964
5. 101 Larry Hargrove vs. Bowling Green 1989
6. 100 Larry Hargrove vs. Ball St. 1988
- 100 Dick Phillips vs. Butler 1950
8. 99 LaVon Brazill vs. NIU 2009
9. 97 Chris Garrett vs. W. Michigan 2006
10. 96 Stafford Owens vs. E. Michigan 2002

Season

1. 396 Raynald Ray 2000
2. 378 Chris Garrett 2006
3. 373 Dick Phillips 1950
4. 350 LaVon Brazill 2009
5. 312 Larry Hargrove 1989
6. 282 Courtney Burton 1992
7. 271 Stafford Owens 2002
8. 266 Larry Hargrove 1988
9. 265 Raynald Ray 1999
- 265 Shawn Bonner 1984

Career

1. 713 Stafford Owens 2001-04
2. 699 Raynald Ray 1997-00
3. 668 LaVon Brazill 2007-11
4. 646 Dick Phillips 1950-52
5. 629 Larry Hargrove 1987-89
6. 540 Shawn Bonner 1983-85
7. 521 Courtney Burton 1990-93
8. 471 Dion Byrum 2002-05
9. 450 Chris Garrett 2006-09
10. 377 Sherman McBride 1980-83

Most Punt Return Touchdowns

Game

1. 1 Several Times
- Last: Travis Carrie vs. NMSU 2011**

Season

1. 3 LaVon Brazill 2009
2. 2 Stafford Owens 2004
- 2 Larry Hargrove 1989

Career

1. 4 LaVon Brazill 2009
2. 3 Stafford Owens 2000-04
- 3 Larry Hargrove 1987-89
4. 2 Dick Phillips 1950-52

Highest Punt Return Average

Game (min. 3 returns)

1. 34.00 Bob Anderson vs. West Texas St. 1964
2. 33.67 Larry Hargrove vs. Bowling Green 1989
3. 33.33 Larry Hargrove vs. Ball St. 1988
4. 30.00 Chris Garrett vs. Rutgers 2006
5. 28.33 LaVon Brazill vs. Kent State 2009
6. 27.25 Stafford Owens vs. Akron 2004
7. 27.00 Larry Hargrove vs. Kent St. 1989
8. 24.75 LaVon Brazill vs. NIU 2009
9. 24.00 Stafford Owens vs. E. Michigan 2002
10. 23.70 Mike Schott vs. Cincinnati 1969

Season (min. 10 returns)

1. 20.72 Dick Phillips 1950
2. 18.35 Larry Hargrove 1989
3. 16.45 LaVon Brazill 2008
4. 14.54 Chris Garrett 2006
5. 13.64 Bob Anderson 1964
6. 13.46 LaVon Brazill 2009
7. 12.26 Courtney Burton 1992
8. 12.17 Mike Schott 1969
9. 12.00 Raynald Ray 2000
10. 11.90 Stafford Owens 2003

Career (min. 25 returns)

1. 14.35 LaVon Brazill 2007-present
2. 13.74 Dick Phillips 1950-52
3. 11.65 Larry Hargrove 1987-89
4. 11.14 Stafford Owens 2000-04
5. 10.92 Raynald Ray 1997-00
6. 10.82 John Dickason 1958-60
7. 10.77 Bob Anderson 1963-65
8. 10.60 LaVon Brazill 2007-11
9. 10.27 Chris Garrett 2006-09
10. 8.68 Courtney Burton 1990-93

Longest Punt Return

1. 91 (TD) LaVon Brazill vs. NIU 2009
2. 88 (TD) Chris Garrett vs. W. Michigan 2006
3. 87 (TD) LaVon Brazill vs. Kent State 2009
- 87 (TD) Larry Grimes vs. Marshall 1986
5. 85 (TD) Bob Anderson vs. West Texas St. 1964
6. 83 (TD) Larry Hargrove vs. Kent St. 1989
7. 81 (TD) Stafford Owens vs. Akron 2004
- 81 (TD) Shawn Bonner vs. W. Michigan 1984
9. 80 (TD) Dick Phillips vs. Butler 1950
10. 78 (TD) Larry Hargrove vs. Bowling Green 1989
- 78 (TD) Glenn Hill vs. Bowling Green 1965



KICKOFF RETURN RECORDS

Most Kick Returns

Game

1. 8 Donte Harden vs. Troy 2010
2. 7 Joshua Abrams vs. Akron 2007
- 7 Dion Byrum vs. Buffalo 2002
- 7 Dion Byrum vs. Bowling Green 2002
- 7 Kahieem Maxwell vs. E. Carolina 1996
- 7 Casey Gayle vs. N. Carolina 1993
7. 6 Seven Times

Last: Chris Garrett vs. Tennessee 2009

Season

1. 43 Keith Crawford 1986
2. 35 Keith Crawford 1985
3. 34 Wayne Clements 1991
- 34 Andrew Greer 1988
5. 28 Andrew Greer 1989
- 28 Nigel Turpin 1977
7. 27 Courtney Burton 1993
- 27 Sherman McBride 1981
9. 26 Joshua Abrams 2007
- 26 Dion Byrum 2002

Career

1. 91 Keith Crawford 1985-87
2. 82 Chris Garrett 2006-09
3. 70 Sherman McBride 1980-83
4. 68 Jason Caesar 1999, 2001-02
5. 64 Scott Mayle 2002-06
6. 62 Donte' Harden 2007-11
- 62 Andrew Greer 1988-89
8. 60 Hank Ray 1993-96
9. 58 Dion Byrum 2002-05
10. 55 Wayne Clements 1990-92



Kahieem Maxwell returned a kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown against Western Michigan in 1998.



Joshua Abrams set several Bobcat return records in 2007, including most kick return yards in a game, the highest kick return average in a game and most kick returns in a game. On the defensive side, he set another Ohio record with three blocked punts in a game.

Most Kick Return Yards

Game

1. 221 Chris Garrett vs. Tennessee 2009
2. 196 Joshua Abrams vs. Miami 2007
3. 185 Courtney Burton vs. Miami 1992
4. 178 Sean Williams vs. E. Carolina 1996
5. 173 Joshua Abrams vs. Akron 2007
6. 170 Casey Gayle vs. N. Carolina 1993
7. 168 Kahieem Maxwell vs. W. Michigan 1998
8. 161 Donte Harden vs. Troy 2010
9. 157 Wayne Clements vs. Bowling Green 1991
10. 151 Dion Byrum vs. Buffalo 2002

Season

1. 890 Keith Crawford 1986
2. 810 Andrew Greer 1988
3. 791 Wayne Clements 1991
4. 731 Keith Crawford 1985
5. 703 Chris Garrett 2009
6. 683 Joshua Abrams 2007
7. 638 Andrew Greer 1989
8. 620 Donte' Harden 2011
9. 618 Chris Garrett 2008
10. 614 Chris Garrett 2007

Career

1. 2,185 Chris Garrett 2006-09
2. 1,843 Keith Crawford 1985-87
3. 1,448 Andrew Greer 1988-89
4. 1,422 Scott Mayle 2002-06
5. 1,405 Donte' Harden 2007-11
6. 1,384 Jason Caesar 1999-02
7. 1,375 Sherman McBride 1980-83
8. 1,284 Hank Ray 1993-96
9. 1,195 Dion Byrum 2002-05
10. 1,124 Wayne Clements 1990-92

Most Kick Return Touchdowns

Game & Season

1. 1 Several Times
- Last:
- Chris Garrett vs. Tennessee 2009
 - Donte Harden at Wyoming 2008
 - L.J. Flintall vs. VMI 2008
 - Chris Garrett vs. Akron 2008

Career

1. 3 Chris Garrett 2006-09
 2. 1 Several Times
- Last: Donte Harden 2008-present
L.J. Flintall 2008-10

Highest Kick Return Average

Game (min. 3 returns)

1. 60.0 Chris Garrett vs. Akron 2008
2. 57.6 Joshua Abrams vs. Akron 2007
3. 56.0 Kahieem Maxwell vs. W. Michigan 1998
- 56.0 Donte' Harden vs. Wyoming 2008
5. 55.0 L.J. Flintall vs. VMI 2008
6. 49.0 Joshua Abrams vs. Miami 2007
7. 48.3 Joshua Abrams vs. Wyoming 2007
8. 39.3 Vince Davidson vs. Bowling Green 2007
9. 36.8 Chris Garrett vs. Tennessee 2009
10. 35.0 Sean Williams vs. N. Illinois 1997

Season (min. 10 returns)

1. 30.07 Bob Allen 1971
2. 28.30 L.J. Flintall 2008
3. 27.24 Scott Mayle 2005
4. 27.10 Dave LeVeck 1968
5. 27.04 Chris Garrett 2009
6. 26.86 Chris Garrett 2008
7. 26.70 Chris Garrett 2007
8. 26.40 Courtney Burton 1992
9. 26.39 Sean Williams 1997
10. 26.30 Joshua Abrams 2007

Career (min. 25 returns)

1. 26.65 Chris Garrett 2006-09
2. 25.90 Joshua Abrams 2004-07
3. 25.09 Bob Allen 1969-71
4. 24.44 Sean Williams 1995-97
5. 23.35 Andrew Greer 1988-89
6. 23.06 Courtney Burton 1990-93
7. 22.70 Donte' Harden 2007-11
8. 22.22 Scott Mayle 2002-06
9. 21.40 Hank Ray 1993-96
10. 20.97 Dave LeVeck 1967-69

Longest Kick Return

1. 100 (TD) Donte Harden at Wyoming 2008
2. 99 (TD) Kahieem Maxwell vs. W. Michigan 1998
3. 97 (TD) Chris Garrett vs. Akron 2008
- 97 (TD) L.J. Flintall vs. VMI 2008
5. 95 (TD) Chris Garrett vs. Tennessee 2009
6. 94 (TD) Chris Garrett vs. Wyoming 2007
- 94 Jerry France vs. Bowling Green 1964
8. 93 (TD) Joshua Abrams vs. Miami 2007
9. 90 (TD) Erland Ahlberg vs. Toledo 1955
10. 89 Todd Snyder vs. Richmond* 1968

*Tangerine Bowl



DEFENSIVE RECORDS

Most Total Tackles**Game**

1.	23	Benny King vs. Ball St.	1993
2.	22	Benny King vs. Akron	1993
3.	21	Jabaar Thompson vs. Utah St.	1994
4.	20	Jabaar Thompson vs. Akron	1993
5.	19	Chris London vs. Akron	2000
	19	Benny King vs. Bowling Green	1993
7.	18	Jabaar Thompson vs. E. Michigan	1994
	18	Jabaar Thompson vs. Kent St.	1993
9.	17	Noah Keller vs. Marshall*	2009
	17	Matt Muncy vs. Northwestern	2005
	17	Shawn Murphy vs. Bowling Green	2001
	17	Jabaar Thompson vs. Akron	1994

* Little Caesars Pizza Bowl

Season (Since 1975)

1.	177	David Terry	1988
2.	171	Mike Mangen	1983
3.	169	Jack LeVeck	1971
4.	159	Jabaar Thompson	1994
	159	David Terry	1989
	159	Frank Komar	1980
7.	158	Benny King	1993
8.	155	Noah Keller	2009
9.	154	Bill Garrett	1988
	154	Brian Mays	1985

Career (since 1975)

1.	513	Mike Mangen	1981-84
2.	462	Benny King	1992-95
3.	458	Brian Mays	1982-85
4.	450	Bill Garrett	1986-89
5.	447	Jabaar Thompson	1992-95
6.	438	Noah Keller	2007-11
7.	418	Tedd Lucas	1976-79
8.	404	Doug Mangen	1984-87
9.	388	Scott Zele	1990-92
10.	350	Steve Groves	1975-76, 78

Most Solo Tackles**Season (since 1975)**

1.	106	David Terry	1988
2.	91	Bill Garrett	1988
3.	78	Dennis Fitzgerald	1997
4.	77	Matt Muncy	2005
5.	73	Chris London	1999
	73	Doug Mangen	1985
7.	72	Dennis Fitzgerald	1996
8.	71	Benny King	1995
9.	70	Joe Sellers	2001
	70	Damiso Johnson	1995

Career (since 1975)

1.	205	Bill Garrett	1986-89
2.	203	Matt Muncy	2003-06
3.	198	Brian Mays	1982-85
4.	192	Mike Mangen	1981-84
5.	188	Doug Mangen	1984-87
6.	186	Dennis Fitzgerald	1995-97
7.	185	Chris London	1998-01
8.	183	Tom Carder	1995-98
9.	180	Mark Stubbs	1995-98
10.	178	Noah Keller	2007-11



Matt Muncy, a two-time first-team All-MAC choice at linebacker, finished his career in 2006 ranked second in school history with 203 solo tackles. Muncy also is fourth in the Bobcat record book with 39.5 tackles for loss, including 17.0 in his senior season.

Most Assisted Tackles**Season (since 1975)**

1.	131	David Terry	1989
2.	122	Scott Zele	1992
3.	119	Benny King	1993
4.	117	John Gamble	1980
5.	116	Mike Mangen	1983
	116	Frank Komar	1980
	116	Steve Groves	1976
8.	104	Jabaar Thompson	1993
9.	102	Jabaar Thompson	1994
	102	Scott Zele	1991

Career (since 1975)

1.	321	Mike Mangen	1981-84
2.	297	Benny King	1992-95
3.	294	Jabaar Thompson	1992-95
4.	277	Tedd Lucas	1976-79
5.	265	Scott Zele	1990-92
6.	260	Noah Keller	2007-11
	260	Brian Mays	1982-85
8.	247	Steve Groves	1975-76, 78
9.	245	Bill Garrett	1986-89
10.	225	Frank Komar	1979-81

Most Tackles for Loss**Game**

1.	6.0	Mario Daniel vs. Ball St.	1996
2.	5.0	Dennis Chukwuemeka vs. Pittsburgh	2002
	5.0	Andre Parker vs. Iowa St.	2000
4.	4.0	Ernie Hodge vs. Kent State	2006
	4.0	Rob Stover vs. UCF	2004
	4.0	Rob Stover vs. SE Missouri	2003
	4.0	Rob Stover vs. Akron	2002
8.	3.5	Dak Notestine vs. BGSU	2009
	3.5	Kevin Carberry vs. Akron	2003
	3.5	Jason Carthen vs. E. Michigan	1992
	3.5	Landon Cohen vs. Kent St.	2006
	3.5	Jameson Hartke vs. C. Michigan	2006

Season (since 1975)

1.	24.0	Jason Carthen	1992
2.	18.0	Frank Komar	1980
3.	17.0	Matt Muncy	2006
	17.0	Jason Carthen	1991
5.	16.0	Matt Weikert	2000
	16.0	Mario Daniel	1996
	16.0	Benny King	1995
	16.0	Doug Mangen	1987
9.	15.0	Henry Jontony	1980
10.	14.0	Landon Cohen	2006
	14.0	Rob Stover	2003
	14.0	Andre Jackson	1996
	14.0	Benny King	1993

Career (since 1975)

1.	44.0	Jason Carthen	1990-92
2.	40.0	Benny King	1992-95
	40.0	Doug Mangen	1984-87
4.	39.5	Landon Cohen	2004-07
	39.5	Matt Muncy	2003-06
6.	34.0	Rob Stover	2002-04
7.	33.0	Frank Komar	1979-81
8.	31.0	Steve Groves	1975-76, 78
9.	30.5	Jameson Hartke	2005-2008
10.	29.0	Leigh Barbour	1996-99
	29.0	John Kraus	1996-99
	29.0	Andre Jackson	1995-97



DEFENSIVE RECORDS



T.J. Wright defended a school-record 22 passes (4 INT/18 PBU) in 2006 to move into first place on the Ohio all-time ledger for both pass break-ups and passes defended.

Most Sacks

Game		
1.	3.0	Nic Barber vs. New Mexico St. 2011
	3.0	Stafford Gatling vs. Louisiana 2010
	3.0	Dak Notestine vs. BGSU 2009
	3.0	Mario Daniel vs. Ball St. 1996
	3.0	Bobby Holloway vs. Hawaii 1996
	3.0	Andre Jackson vs. Toledo 1996
7.	2.5	Kevin Carberry vs. Akron 2003
8.	2.0	Several Times
		Last: Dak Notestine and Travis Carrie

Season (since 1975)

1.	9.0	Jason Carthen	1992
2.	8.0	Mario Daniel	1996
	8.0	Jason Carthen	1991
	8.0	Tom Kutz	1987
5.	7.5	Jameson Hartke	2006
	7.0	Rahim Slaise	1998
	7.0	Andre Jackson	1997
	7.0	John Guznik	1985
9.	6.5	Dak Notestine	2009
	6.5	Stafford Gatling	2010

Career (since 1975)

1.	19.0	Andre Jackson	1995-97
2.	17.5	Jameson Hartke	2005-2008
3.	17.0	Jason Carthen	1990-92
4.	14.0	Leigh Barbour	1996-99
	14.0	Rahim Slaise	1996-98
6.	13.0	John Kraus	1996-99
7.	12.0	Ed Shy	1986-89
8.	11.5	Matt Muncy	2003-06
9.	11.0	Art Adams	1998-01
10.	10.0	Five Players	

Most Interceptions

Game		
1.	3	Tevell Jones vs. Bowling Green 1997
	3	Roger Smith vs. Marshall 1987
	3	Eric Edwards vs. Richmond 1982
	3	Joe Callan vs. Cincinnati 1979
	3	Joe Callan vs. E. Michigan 1979
	3	Joe Callan vs. N. Illinois 1976
	3	Bill Frederick vs. Morris Harvey 1953
	3	Paul Winemiller vs. Kent St. 1949
	3	Pat Connelly vs. Butler 1948
10.	2	Several Times
		Last: Travis Carrie vs. Marshall 2011

Season

1.	*9	Joe Callan	1979
2.	7	Tevell Jones	1997
	7	John Dickason	1960
	7	Jim McKenna	1949
5.	6	Gerald Moore	2009
	6	Dion Byrum	2005
	6	Bop White	2002
	6	Tom Ascani	1952
9.	5	Eight Times	
		Last: Donovan Fletcher 2010	

Career

1.	18	Joe Callan	1975-79
2.	17	Bop White	1999-02
3.	13	Bert Dampier	1970-72
	13	T.J. Wright	2003-06
5.	12	Mike Schott	1967-69
6.	11	Tevell Jones,	1994-97
	11	Bill Mitchell	1968-70
	11	Bill Frederick	1952-54
	11	Jim McKenna	1947-49
10.	10	Dion Byrum	2002-05
	10	Vincent Short	1977-80

Most Interception Return Yards

Game		
1.	123	Dion Byrum vs. Pittsburgh 2005
Season		
1.	173	John Dickason 1960
2.	153	Dion Byrum 2005
3.	141	Tevell Jones 1996
4.	119	T.J. Wright 2003
5.	116	Bert Dampier 1971
6.	110	Joseph Callan 1979
7.	109	Tim Pringle 1988
8.	100	Julian Posey 2009
9.	95	Jim Albert 1963
10.	81	Travis Carrie 2011
	81	Burt Dampier 1970

Career

1.	247	Bert Dampier	1970-72
2.	179	Joe Callan	1975-79
3.	177	Tevell Jones	1996-97
4.	173	John Dickason	1960
5.	172	T.J. Wright	2003-06
6.	166	Jim Albert	1961-63
7.	162	Dion Byrum	2002-05
8.	140	Mike Schott	1967-69
	140	Michael Mitchell	2005-08
10.	133	Bill Frederick	1952-54

Most Interceptions Returned for Touchdowns

Game		
1.	2	Dion Byrum vs. Pittsburgh 2005
Season		
1.	2	Dion Byrum 2005
2.	1	Several Times
Last:		Donovan Fletcher 2010
Career		
1.	2	Dion Byrum 2002-05
2.	1	Several Players

Most Pass Break-Ups

Season		
1.	18	T.J. Wright 2006
2.	16	Mark Parson 2006
3.	13	Travis Carrie 2011
	13	Dion Byrum 2003
	13	Chip Cox 2002
6.	12	Chip Cox 2003
7.	11	T.J. Wright 2003
	11	Bop White 1999
	11	Tevell Jones 1996
10.	10	Bop White 2001
	10	Todd Koenig 2007

Career

1.	44	T.J. Wright	2003-06
2.	34	Bop White	1999-02
3.	31	Mark Parson	2005-2008
4.	29	Dion Byrum	2002-05
	29	Chip Cox	2001-04
6.	15	Todd Koenig	2004-07
	14	Chris London	1998-01
8.	13	Travis Carrie	2008-present
9.	12	Rob Stover	2002-03
	12	Arden Banks	1998-01

Most Passes Defended (INT + PBU)

Season		
1.	22	T.J. Wright 2006
2.	17	Travis Carrie 2011
	17	Mark Parson 2006
4.	16	Bop White 1999
5.	15	Dion Byrum 2003
	15	Chip Cox 2002
	15	Tevell Jones 1996
8.	14	T.J. Wright 2003
9.	13	Chip Cox 2003
	13	Bop White 2001

Career

1.	57	T.J. Wright	2003-06
2.	51	Bop White	1999-02
3.	39	Dion Byrum	2002-05
4.	36	Mark Parson	2005-2008
5.	33	Chip Cox	2001-04
6.	22	Tevell Jones	1994, 96-97
7.	18	Chris London	1998-01
	18	Joe Callan	1975-77
9.	17	Rob Stover	2002-03
10.	16	Dennis Fitzgerald	1995-97
	16	Todd Koenig	2004-07

Longest Interception Return

Game		
1.	95	Jim Albert vs. W. Michigan 1963
2.	88	Bob Short vs. Western Reserve 1950
3.	85	Dion Byrum vs. Pittsburgh 2005
4.	84	Steve Robinson vs. Kent St. 1967
5.	81	Travis Carrie vs. BGSU 2011

College football: Ohio selected as MAC favorite

Mark Znidar

Columbus Dispatch - July 25, 2012

DETROIT — It's nothing like the pressure of being on the cover of Sports Illustrated or Madden NFL, but Ohio University football coach Frank Solich knows what he will tell his players about being picked to win the Mid-American Conference championship.

Members of the media overwhelmingly chose the Bobcats to win the East Division and gave them the narrow nod to defeat Toledo in the championship game.

"I knew coming in here that we could be picked to win, so we'll be like that DirecTV commercial where we have an eye patch on," Solich said yesterday at Ford Field during the annual conference media day. "When people think you are tough, they want to find out how tough."

Ohio has not won the MAC championship since 1968. It blew a 20-0 half-time lead in losing 23-20 to Northern Illinois in last season's title game.

The Bobcats, though, redeemed themselves with a 24-23 victory over Utah State in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl.

"Winning that game gives us tremendous motivation," Solich said. "Now, we want to (get more) things done. We left (the MAC championship game) with a bitter taste. That was tough to take. We had control for a half, (and) we didn't get it done."

Optimism is running high because Ohio might have the best quarterback in the MAC in junior Tyler Tettleton and the best defensive back in senior Travis Carrie. Tettleton was named to the watch list for the Davey O'Brien Award, which is presented to the nation's top quarterback. Carrie was added to the Jim Thorpe Award watch list (best defensive back). The Bobcats also return standouts in kicker Matt Weller, right guard Eric Herman, safety Gerald Moore and tight end Jordan Thompson.

Ohio will be put to the test when it opens the season on Sept. 1 at Penn State. The nation will be focused on State College in the wake of the Jerry Sandusky child sex abuse scandal, the firing of legendary coach Joe Paterno and crippling sanctions by the NCAA.

"The only thing we can do is show up and play good football," Solich said. "We also have our hearts out for the victims, but there isn't anyone on the planet who doesn't feel that way."

Athletic director Jim Schaus said he scheduled the game "about four or five years ago."

"We're going there to win," Schaus said.

Toledo also is creating a buzz. The Rockets defeated Air Force 42-41 in the Military Bowl despite former coach Tim Beckman being hired away by Illinois leading up to the game.

Matt Campbell, an assistant who took over the team for the bowl game, said credit goes to the players for finishing 9-4. He wound up getting the head-coaching job.

"I just told the kids the day I got the job that changes happen in life — that is inevitable — but greatness is a choice," Campbell said. "We have a chance to take that next step. I think our kids have worked hard to take that next step."

The Rockets return an impressive core of quarterbacks in Austin Dantin and Terrance Owens, as well as center Zac Kerin of Olen-tangy and linebacker Dan Molls.

They will have to replace receiver Eric Page, one of their greatest players ever. He left early for the NFL but was not drafted.

Kent State, picked fourth in the East, went 5-7 last season but won four of their final four games under first-year coach Darrell Hazell.

"To our players' credit, when things got really bad on the scoreboard, they did an excellent job of staying glued together," said Hazell, a former Ohio State assistant. "They kept believing."

THE PLAIN DEALER

Ohio Bobcats, Toledo Rockets picked to be division winners in Mid-American Conference preseason football poll

Elton Alexander

Cleveland Plain Dealer - July 24, 2012

DETROIT -- The usual suspects sit atop the Mid-American Conference preseason football poll, announced this morning at the league's Media Day.

Ohio was the 17-vote unanimous choice to win the MAC's East Division title. Toledo, in a much closer vote, was picked to win the MAC West.

The Rockets, with seven first-place votes, are expected to be challenged by Northern Illinois (five votes) and Western Michigan (four).

Kent State is projected to finish fourth in the MAC East behind No. 2 Bowling Green and No. 3 Miami. Rounding out the division is expected to be Buffalo, Akron and newcomer Massachusetts.

In the West, after UT, NIU and WMU, Ball State, Eastern Michigan and CMU round out the picks.

It's interesting to note the two teams picked to win their divisions, OU and Toledo, are two of the teams with the least returning starters in the league. Toledo sits at the very bottom of the league with only 12 starters returning from last season. OU sits behind Akron (13) in the East with just 15 returning starters.

However, both teams return top quarterbacks. Tyler Tettleton (3,286 yds, 28 TDs) leads the way for OU, while it was clear the Rockets will once again employ a two-quarterback system with Austin Dantin (1,404 yds, 15 TDs) and Glenville High product Terrance Owens (2,022 yds, 18 TDs) .

Both Dantin and Owens were in Detroit for Tuesday's media day activities. Owens, who was drafted in baseball by the San Diego Padres, said sharing time under center is no issue.

"It's part of our system," the former Tarblooder said. "It's just a matter of stepping up at the right time when it's your turn. We're both good quarterbacks. It's what we need to do to win a championship.

Being picked as the East favorite did not faze Bobcats coach Frank Solich, who said it was akin to walking down the street with an eye-patch. According to Solich, the perception is, if you have an eye-patch you must be pretty tough. OU was awarded the eye-patch.

"Now we'll see how tough we really are," he said.

The Bobcats will open the regular season Sept. 1 on ESPN at Penn State. It will be the first game for the Nittany Lions under the numerous sanctions imposed Monday by the NCAA.



Bobcats tabbed to win MAC

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - July 24, 2012

DETROIT-- The Bobcats are believed to be good enough to win the Mid-American Conference this season.

Now, can Ohio prove to be tough enough to make it reality?

Ohio University was the only team picked to win the Mid-American Conference East Division, and was the top choice to win the 2012 MAC Championship game, in the 2012 MAC Football Preseason Poll announced Tuesday at the conference's annual football media day at Ford Field.

The league's media contingent voted in the poll. The same poll picked Ohio to finish second in the MAC East in both 2010 and 2011.

Ohio coach Frank Solich figured his team would be a target this season after winning the MAC East last fall. Now, the bulls-eye on the Bobcats' back is a little larger. Solich said the 'Cats situation isn't unlike the one of a fictional character in a recent DirecTV commercial.

In the commercial, a man gets an eye-patch and as a result has to prove he's tough enough to wear it.

"You know how (the commercial) goes?" Solich asked. "When you get an eye-patch, people think you're a tough guy. When people think you're a tough guy, they want to see how tough.

"Well, we got the eye patch," he continued. "Now we'll see how tough we really are."

In the East Division, Ohio led the way with 119 total points followed by second-place Bowling Green (91). In the West Division, voting was more balanced as just eight points separated the top three teams with Toledo (87), Northern Illinois (83) and Western Michigan (79) filling the top three spots.

In the last four years, the conference has had six different programs compete in the MAC title game and 10 of the MAC's 13 programs have appeared in a bowl game over that span.

Solich said the parity of the conference has increased since his arrival in 2005.

"I really believe any team could win it," Solich said. "When I first started, there were levels. Some teams were up top, some on the bottom. But no more."

Ohio received all 17 first-place votes to emerge as the clear favorite on the East side. The Bobcats return 49 letterwinners and 15 starters from last year's 10-4 team that won the MAC East Division title, and finished the season with a 24-23 win over Utah State in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl. The bowl game win was the first in program history for Ohio.

The Bobcats also return starting quarterback Tyler Tettleton, who set 12 single-season records a year ago while throwing for 3,286 yards and 28 touchdowns.

Tettleton said the recognition was nice, but doesn't mean anything in terms of the 2012 season.

"It's nice to be thought of that way, but it's no guarantee," he said. "We feel we have unfinished business."

That unfinished business is an overall MAC Championship. Ohio hasn't won one since 1968, but came close last season. The Bobcats blew a big halftime lead in a loss to Northern Illinois in the 2011 MAC Championship Game.

"That's a big motivating factor," said Ohio senior cornerback Travis Carrie. "We still have something to prove."

Ohio was followed in the poll by Bowling Green and Miami, which were separated by just seven points for second and third place. Struggling Akron and UMass, making the jump to FBS football for the first time this season, received the lowest two point totals in the poll.

Toledo returns 48 letterwinners and 12 starters from a 2011 team that was 9-4 and 7-1 in conference. The Rockets also knocked off Air Force, 42-41, in the Military Bowl. First-year head coach Matt Campbell spent the last three years as the Rockets offensive coordinator and will have the services of two returning quarterbacks in the form of Austin Dantin and Terrance Owens.

Northern Illinois, the defending MAC West champion and winner of the 2011 MAC Championship game, was chosen second in the division. Western Michigan was third, and also received four first-place votes. Ball State, Eastern Michigan and Central Michigan rounded out the West Division voting.

"It's going to be a dogfight," said Eastern Michigan coach Ron English. "And not just in the West. The conference as a whole has a lot of teams that really compete."

"I think Miami is going to be good. Bowling Green returns a ton of people. And then Frank, well Frank's always good. He has Ohio really clicking."

The 2012 season kicks off on Thursday, Aug. 30 with five games, including four non-conference games and one conference game between Ball State and Eastern Michigan.

More wild MAC offense? Yes, please

Zac Jackson

Fox Sports Ohio - July 24, 2012

DETROIT - Whatever the Mid-American Conference's reputation is nationally, it's probably not boring.

Look for that to continue in 2012 as nine MAC teams return their starting quarterbacks, and 11 of the 13 teams bring back at least six players who started on offense at some point in 2011.

It would be impossible to predict a repeat of what happened last November, when Northern Illinois essentially clinched the West Division title by beating Toledo, 63-60, and just a week later Toledo beat Western Michigan, 66-63, in the same stadium.

It would also be silly to pick against some sort of high-flying run of memorable shootouts.

"The best part of our Toledo game was the next week I got to kind of watch it (Toledo-WMU) on TV and didn't have to agonize," Northern Illinois coach Dave Doeren said Tuesday at MAC Media Day. "Thinking about winning 63-60, with us returning two kickoffs for touchdowns then scoring last, it was a heck of a game...for the ages.

"It was a game I hope I never have to go through again."

Northern Illinois quarterback Chandler Harnish, the MAC Player of the Year, graduated and was drafted in the seventh round by the Indianapolis Colts after leading the conference with 4,595 all-purpose yards. Among those returning are Western Michigan's Alex Carder (4,143 all-purpose yards, 31 passing TDs), Ohio's Tyler Tettleton (3,915 all-purpose yards) and Miami of Ohio's Zac Dysert, who's likely to pass Ben Roethlisberger as the school's all-time leader in passing yards and, if he can come close to matching his 3,513 passing yards from last year, can finish as one of the most productive quarterbacks in MAC history.

Dysert is 4,395 yards short of Dan LeFevour's MAC career record. Getting there seems absurd, but this is the MAC.

In all, five players who threw for more than 3,000 yards last season return. Toledo returns its 1-2 quarterback punch of Austin Dantin and Terrence Owens, who combined to throw for 3,426 yards and 33 touchdowns last year. Bowling Green returns both quarterback Matt Schilz (3,024 passing yards) and running back Anthon Samuel, the MAC Freshman of the Year in 2011. Six players who earned conference first or second-team honors at wide receiver or tight end also return.

VOTES ARE IN: Ohio was the unanimous choice of the voting media to win the East Division, while Toledo was made the pick in the West. The Rockets got seven first-place votes, while second-place choice Northern Illinois got five and third pick Western Michigan got four.

Central Michigan was voted sixth and last in the poll but got one first-place vote.

"I think the West is very strong," Doeren said. "I chuckled at the (poll) when I saw one guy had Ball State last. I thought they were one of the toughest teams we played last year. The West is very strong, very bal-

anced, there are a lot of experienced quarterbacks. I think if anything has been proven in the MAC, it's that it's anybody's league and it usually comes down to who has the best quarterback."

Bowling Green was voted second in the East, not much ahead of Miami and Kent State in third and fourth, respectively.

The league title game will be played on Nov. 30. The MAC and Ford Field announced a four-year contract extension to keep the MAC title game there through the 2015 season.

NEW GUYS: Massachusetts jumps to Div. I/FCS status and begins play this fall as a football-only member of the MAC, giving the East Division seven teams. Temple left its football-only role in the MAC to play in the Big East this season. Temple will join the Big East in all sports in 2013-14.

Kellen Pagel -- a native of Strongsville, Ohio and the son of former Cleveland Browns quarterback Mike Pagel -- is expected to again be the quarterback at UMass. He started eight games last year after transferring from Bowling Green.

UP FOR GRABS: Second-year Kent State coach Darrell Hazell said his team will hold an equal-reps-for-all quarterback competition in training camp. Senior returnee Spencer Keith has the experience edge, but Hazell said junior college transfer David Fisher and true freshman Colin Reardon will also be given a chance to compete.

2012's 10 best games to watch in the MAC

Zac Jackson

Fox Sports Ohio - July 25, 2012

DETROIT – Being ready for Mid-American Conference football often means being ready for four-hour games and plenty of scoring.

Oh, you're fine with that?

We don't know if last year's 63-60 Northern Illinois win over Toledo or Toledo's 66-63 win over Western Michigan (just a week later) can be topped. But we're just a few weeks away from finding out. Below is the very-early list of the 10 most interesting games on the MAC schedule this season.

These won't necessarily end up being the best or the biggest games involving MAC teams this season, but they're simply the most interesting based on preseason storylines and expectations and potential ramifications. Bonus points for mega-points potential, of course.

10. Toledo at Arizona, Sept. 1 – Toledo beat a Rich Rodriguez-coached team before, and now Rich Rod's first game at Arizona comes against a talented Rockets team that's used to the big stage. Rodriguez knows from that miserable experience in 2008 that he'd better have his team ready, and first-year coach Matt Campbell has two game-proven quarterbacks and what should be an improved defense as the Rockets aim for the upset.

9. South Florida at Ball State, Sept. 22 – What in the world is South Florida doing playing a game in Muncie, Indiana? After going 6-6 with a relatively young team a year ago, Ball State comes into the season with some expectations for the first time since Nate Davis was running the show. The Cardinals will treat this one like the Super Bowl and if senior quarterback Keith Wenning can get hot, an upset is possible.

8. Ohio at Kent State, Nov. 23 – Most recent Thanksgiving Weekend games at Kent State have had little consequence and little – like, a few hundred brave souls – attendance. But the Flashes are expecting to be much improved in Darrell Hazell's second year as coach, and they're expecting this game to mean something. Maybe Kent State will be playing for bowl eligibility, or maybe the MAC East title will be on the line. Stay tuned.

7. Cincinnati at Toledo, Oct. 20 – A nice little intra-state rivalry game between teams coming off of nice seasons. The Bearcats seem to be the team with more to lose, especially going on the road in the midst of their conference schedule, and Toledo will see this as an opportunity to gain further regional and national respect. Both programs deserve credit for making signing a home-and-home deal, and it should make for a very entertaining football game.

6. Bowling Green at Ohio, Nov. 7 – The kind of midweek showcase game the MAC has used to gain national recognition pits the two East favorites. Expect some scoring, a nice crowd at Peden Stadium and plenty on the line as highly-touted quarterbacks Tyler Tettleton and Matt Schilz (over 6,200 combined passing yards last year) trade throws. Bowling Green running back Anthon Samuel could have a big year in store as well.

5. Miami at Ohio State, Sept. 1 – It won't be even a little quiet in Ohio

Stadium for Urban Meyer's debut. And absolutely no one outside of the Miami locker room is giving the Redhawks a chance to keep it close. But playing at Ohio State is always a big deal for Ohio natives, and this is a showcase game for Miami's pitch-and-catch, NFL-prospect duo of quarterback Zac Dysert and receiver Nick Harwell.

4. Toledo at Western Michigan, Sept. 29 – Western Michigan QB Alex Carder is primed for a big season and is maybe the single biggest reason Western is regarded as having a solid chance to win the balanced West division. Toledo has posted back-to-back second-place finishes in the West Division and knows it probably can't give up a game to the Broncos here and expect to eventually finish first. Another fun one is probably in store.

3. Bowling Green at Florida, Sept. 1 – There's no way Bowling Green could pull this upset, right? Probably not, but the Falcons should be able to score some points, and Florida is still seeking an identity and trying to find its next star quarterback. It seems like one that will be close for a while before the home team pulls away, but don't be shocked if the Falcons hang around and make the Swamp natives a little restless.

2. Toledo at Northern Illinois, Nov. 14 – Even if it's 49-45, it will be a stinker based on last year's standards. But don't expect a stinker. Northern Illinois has to replace do-it-all QB Chandler Harnish and its offensive line, but should be better defensively and still explosive at the skill spots. Toledo is still going to score, and this game is again set for mid-week national TV. Buckle up.

1. Ohio University at Penn State, Sept. 1 – It's the easy pick as the most interesting game involving a MAC team, but not just because it's Penn State's first game of the new era. The Bobcats are experienced and loaded for a strong season, and with so much uncertainty surrounding Penn State an OU win wouldn't be a tremendous upset. If the Bobcats can win here and at Marshall two weeks later, when might they lose?

Season opener against Penn State will ‘challenge’ Ohio’s game-day focus

Jim Ryan

The Post - July 25, 2012

DETROIT — Ohio officials publicly voiced their thoughts about the Penn State scandal for the first time Tuesday at the Mid-American Conference Football Media Day.

Their messages didn’t reek of public relations pitches or prepared sentiments. Fans of the game themselves, Ohio personnel said the monstrosity struck a chord far beyond just a professional level.

The season-opening showdown will likely tug on Ohio’s heartstrings, but coach Frank Solich said the team’s focus will be on the two things it can control: how it practices and performs on the field.

“Everyone is concerned and heartbroken for the victims involved, but the only thing we can do is show up and play our best football,” he said.

That will be easier said than done for Ohio, which will catch its fair share of extra attention heading into the game.

The brunt of the scrutiny will be placed on their opponents, but stepping into the limelight — or the frenzy that will be Penn State’s Beaver Stadium on the first day of the season — will bring baggage not associated with a more routine first game.

The Bobcats’ recent season-openers have been against lower-profile opponents. They have performed accordingly, winning four of their last six.

The last time Ohio opened the season against a similar caliber of competition was in 2005, when it experienced varying results.

Losses to Northwestern and No. 4-ranked Virginia Tech sandwiched one of the program’s signature wins — an overtime triumph against Pittsburgh at Peden Stadium.

For the Bobcats, goal No. 1 is to keep potentially shaky hands and heavy hearts out of the picture in Happy Valley.

“It’ll be a challenge to really make sure we’re focused on what we need to be about,” Solich said.

Leading up to the NCAA’s Monday ruling that issued Penn State a \$60 million fine, four-year bowl ban, and the loss of 40 scholarships over four years and 112 wins between 1998 and 2011, among other penalties, the Bobcats weren’t especially keen on keeping up with Penn State’s every move.

“Things were changing on almost a daily basis, that it was difficult to really get a feel for the direction it was going,” Solich said.

Solich and Tom Symonds, Ohio’s assistant athletics director for media relations, said contact with their opponents was not outside normal procedures.

Ohio’s front office view is no different. Director of Athletics Jim Schaus said he expects nothing different in the team’s readiness for the game than when the Bobcats beat New Mexico State this past season or Wofford College the year before.

“It’s certainly a tragic situation they’ve gone through — we feel for those victims — but our focus is on the football game,” Schaus said. “Our focus is on playing the game, and to do that well, and not getting caught up in commenting or dealing with any of those outside issues.”

Schaus was responsible for scheduling the game four years ago and said the matchup, despite extraneous circumstances, fits both universities’ molds for the season’s first game.

He said Athens’ close proximity to State College, the fans’ willingness to travel for the game and the number of tickets the Nittany Lions opened up to the Bobcat fan base made the scheduling attractive for both parties.

The matchup makes financial sense as well. Penn State will pay Ohio “a quality amount” for the game, Schaus said, and the trip won’t require more than a six-hour bus ride.

If the Bobcats’ plans fall into place, as some fans are predicting on social media, the ride there may drag on longer than their return trip.

“It’s an exciting opportunity for us to play a Big Ten school,” Schaus said. “We try to have a game like that at least once a year. It’s enjoyable for the players and the fans.”



Scott back for the start of fall camp

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Aug. 6, 2012

The last time Tremayne Scott was taking reps on the turf inside Peden Stadium he felt something pop in his foot.

That was nearly four months ago.

After surgery, and months of rehab, Scott was again taking reps inside Peden on Monday afternoon as the Bobcats opened their 2012 fall camp with their first official practice.

Scott, a senior returning starter at defensive end, wasn't wearing any extra protective gear and was taking part in as many reps as he was allowed.

"Close to 100 (percent)," Scott said when asked to assess his overall health. "I got back in good time. Everything feels pretty good."

Scott credited Ohio strength coach Sonny Sano and head trainer John Bowman for their help in a regimen over the past four months that helped get him ready to play. Ohio finished the spring with no assurances that Scott would be ready to go by August, or at all.

But head coach Frank Solich liked what he saw from the DE on Monday.

"He moved around real well today. In fact, tried to slow him down a little bit because he's anxious to get out there and show what he can do again," Solich said.

"He's a guy that is a tremendous finisher. He brings a lot of energy to a football team."

The Bobcats, as a whole, had plenty of energy on the first day of camp. It's a sign the squad is still driven to prove something, Scott said. Ohio's motto this season is "Unfinished Business" in reference to a loss last December in the Mid-American Conference Championship game.

Last month, Ohio was tabbed the overwhelming favorite to win the MAC East Division, and the media pick to win the 2012 MAC championship game.

"There's definitely a target on our back this year," Scott said. "We're expected great things, and great things are expected out of us."

"It's going to start with our chemistry and trusting everybody on our team, offense or defense."

Another list

Junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton has landed on another postseason award watch list. Tettleton, on Monday, was named to the 2012 Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award Watch List.

The Golden Arm Award is given to a student-athlete who is not only a strong athletic performer but also a person of high character with admirable scholastic achievement and leadership qualities.

Last month, Tettleton was also named to the watch lists for both the

Manning Award and Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award. Both are given annually to the best quarterback in college football.

Athletes only

Two members of the 2012 Ohio recruiting class were listed as 'Athlete' when their addition to the Bobcat program was announced in February.

At the start of fall camp, however, both Sebastian Smith and Davon Henry find themselves on the offensive side of the football.

Smith, from Pickerington Central HS outside Columbus, will be joining the wide receiver ranks as a 6-foot-2, 180-pound target.

Henry, from Round Rock, Texas, is listed at 6-foot-2 and 232 pounds. He'll be lining up at tight end, and has switched his jersey number to 85.

Comings and going

Three potential members of the 105-man fall camp roster will not be joining the Bobcats until the roster is expanded to 120.

Kicker Josiah Yazdani, an Alexander HS grad, suffered a knee injury at the end of spring camp and will likely be sidelined most of the season.

2012 recruit John Tanner, a tight end from Cincinnati Moeller HS, had shoulder surgery in the offseason and will also miss fall camp.

Athens HS grad Mitch Rider, a walk-on linebacker, will be on the active roster as it's expanded with the start of the fall semester.

There have been a handful of additions to the 105 as well, including CB Mike Terpin, LB James Radabaugh, K Matt Amicone, LB Garrett Foster, WR Dayne Hammond and K/P Matt Ringle.



Football: Team prepares for fall camp, evaluates goals for upcoming season

Nick Robbe

The Post - Aug. 6, 2012

While many students begin to count down the days until they return to campus, Ohio already has a different day circled on its calendar.

The Bobcats began a 26-day fall camp Monday, which leads up to their season-opening showdown with Penn State on Sept. 1.

Ohio has high expectations on the table heading into its 2012 campaign, stemming from its first ever bowl win in 2011.

"We've met a number of goals, but we've left some things on the table," coach Frank Solich said. "Our football team understands that they'll work toward trying to accomplish those goals."

Preseason accolades were dolled out to individuals and the team throughout the preseason. Quarterback Tyler Tettleton, defensive back Travis Carrie and kicker Matt Weller all were named to college football's major awards watch lists.

Perhaps the biggest honor bestowed on Ohio was the weight of being the preseason Mid-American Conference favorites, as pegged by the conference's media conglomerate.

But before even thinking about MAC play, the Bobcats have plenty to prepare for. Solich said that even though the Nittany Lions have had their psyches tested during the offseason, the Bobcats will have to make sure their heads are on straight as well.

"It will be a challenge of making sure that we are focused on what we need to be about," he said. "We can control how we practice and how well we play, those are the only two things that we are going to be focused on."

Carrie, one of the team's four captains, echoed his coach's sentiment, saying that the team's focus will be on itself instead of the Penn State blue and white swirling around the confines of Beaver Stadium during the season opener.

"Going into the game, both teams have one goal, and the goal is to win," Carrie said. "Penn State traditionally has been a good a team and that's what we're expecting from them."

Last season's potent offensive unit lost playmakers and anchors on the offensive line, but the Bobcats' offensive line depth leads Solich to consider it his team's strength.

"I do know that we will have a very good offensive front again," Solich said. "We lost four athletes at the receiver position that caught a lot of balls for us, it remains to be seen if we will replace that, but Tyler (Tettleton) is bright, he knows it takes a combination of things to build the statistics he had."



Tettleton facing expectations in 2012

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Aug. 8, 2012

So how does one follow up the best statistical season in a program's history?

For starters, you don't worry about trying to do just that.

That's the approach Ohio junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton is trying to take this season. The son of a former major leaguer and Oklahoma native broke onto the college football scene in 2011 with a season unlike any other in Ohio football history. Tettleton put up dazzling numbers as Ohio posted a 10-4 mark and capped the year with a win in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl.

The damage to the Ohio record book was extensive. Tettleton became the first Ohio QB to throw for more than 3,000 yards in a single season. Along the way, he set 12 new Ohio records. He finished with 3,302 passing yards, 658 rushing yards and accounted for 38 touchdowns via the air or on the ground.

It's hard to believe now, but Tettleton was an unknown just 12 months ago. Last fall, he was a first-time starter.

Now? Tettleton is the face of the program and has a mountain of expectations on his shoulders as the Bobcats opened their 2012 fall camp on Monday.

To give you an idea of what's expected, Tettleton has been named to four different watch lists for awards that go to the best quarterbacks in college football. His team is the heavy favorite to win the Mid-American Conference East Division, and the Bobcats are the preseason pick to win the MAC Championship game.

From unknown to superstar in less than a year's time, it's fair to wonder how the redshirt junior will handle the attention, the pressure and expectations.

His teammates and coaches aren't expecting anything other than the same old 'Tett' they've seen before.

"I think he can handle it," said Ohio quarterbacks coach Gerry Gdowski. "He's always been a mature kid who's had his priorities right and understands what's important.

"Now, he's got to go out and perform," he added. "I know he wants to perform even better than he did last year. Sometimes that little added pressure can make you work a little harder, study a little more, all those kinds of things."

Tettleton hasn't strayed from his own motto, which is to worry about the team first and stats later. He said that when he was named the starter in August 2011, and wasn't budging from the stance this week.

"It's the same thing. I just focus on the team more than anything and focus on our goals as a team," Tettleton said. "All that stuff that goes on in the season, the stats and all that, it will take care of itself at the end of the year. And whatever happens, happens."

His teammates believe, like Gdowski, the quarterback has the right mental makeup to handle anything that comes his way.

"The kid knows what he's doing," said junior WR Mario Dovell, who recounted marveling at how Tettleton broke down defenses during a summer film session.

"He breaks it all down," he added. "He's like an offensive coordinator too. He really knows what he's talking about."

And no special treatment for the starting quarterback yet. If there's a sprint, he's running it. Senior flanker Tyler Futrell said Tettleton's work ethic hasn't been dulled by last year's success.

"Works harder than anybody I've seen," Futrell said. "At the same time, he's out here doing what he needs to do to be a quarterback at the top level and fulfilling his potential. He's just fighting for it every day."

That includes trying to find a way to be better, as difficult as that might seem. Tettleton completed 64.3 percent of his passes in 2011, and had 10 interceptions — or one in every 41.5 pass attempts.

Gdowski said he'd like to see the completion percentage bump a little.

Ohio offensive coordinator Tim Albin said the focus for Tettleton's improvement in year two is based on two things: pace and turnovers. Albin wants more of the former, and less of the latter. Like most everyone else, he doesn't anticipate the added attention being a distraction for the signal-caller.

"That's the spotlight. That's being a quarterback. That just comes with the position," he said. "He's the perfect guy to handle it. He has a great mindset.

"I mean it's going to be tough to duplicate what he got done last year in the throwing game," Albin continued. "But if we can improve the turnover number, I think the end result — the wins and losses — will show at the end."

Ohio head coach Frank Solich has been around a lot of good quarterbacks, even Heisman Trophy winners. He's said Tettleton's mental approach is exactly what you look for.

But he cautioned you never know what you might get year to year.

"I think he'll handle it well. But on that kind of situation, you kind of have to wait and see," he said. "He's got the right personality, the right makeup, he's got the leadership ability. He's got everything that makes you say 'Hey, this year will just be a continuation of last year.'"

"But every year is a new year. We got a lot of confidence in him. He's got a lot of confidence in himself. The players around him have a lot of confidence in him. Now we see how it plays out."



Dovell, Futrell get chance to fill receiving roles

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Aug. 10, 2012

They aren't LaVon Brazill and Riley Dunlop.

But Tyler Futrell and Mario Dovell have been waiting for their chance to prove they could be.

Futrell and Dovell, two wideouts with the Ohio football team, are being counted on to fill some big shoes on the offensive side of the football for the Bobcats.

Opportunities were few and far between for the pair over the past couple of seasons as Ohio's receiving corps relied on others — such as the now graduated Brazill and Dunlop — but that's not the case any longer.

Tyler? Mario? You're up.

"You have to seize the moment," Dovell said. "You have to take the best of it and run with it."

Brazill, a sixth-round draft pick of the Indianapolis Colts and currently second on Indy's depth chart, ran with it better than any other receiver in Ohio history. And while Brazill set several Ohio receiving records, Dunlop was perhaps underappreciated. A multi-year starter, Dunlop was a clutch performer and critical on third downs.

The duo was a big reason Ohio ramped up the offense in 2011, and a big factor in quarterback Tyler Tettleton's record-setting season.

With their departure, it's up to a new group of receivers — headed up by Futrell and Dovell — to make sure the offense stays clicking on all cylinders. Ohio has one returning starter at flanker, junior Donte Foster, but for the most part the Bobcats will have to break in a new crop of perimeter threats.

"It's difficult when you lose somebody like LaVon and Riley. Both of them are very talented," Futrell said. "We just got to come up and try to fill their shoes. We're not going to replace them, but at the same time we still have a talented group at wideout and we can still get things done."

Futrell and Dovell have paid their dues. Futrell, a 6-0, 179-pound, fifth-year senior from Altoona, Pa, came to Ohio as a cornerback. After a position switch and redshirt year in 2008, Futrell has appeared in just 27 games over the last three seasons.

Futrell has six career catches for 90 yards, and all came last season.

"I came a long way. It's been a long time," Futrell explained. "As a senior, this is what you're always building up to. Fortunately I got into the position to make an impact on this team. Hopefully turn some heads and open some eyes."

"Hopefully we can come out and do what we're projected to do."

Dovell, 6-foot, 200-pound, redshirt junior from Whetstone HS in Columbus, will be trying to fill Brazill's shoes, specifically. He's the projected starter at the 'Z' receiver position where Brazill shined a year ago.

Like Futrell, Dovell had few chances with the offense the past few seasons. After a redshirt season in 2009, he's played in 25 games over the past two years. Dovell has 12 career catches for 183 yards, and averaged a healthy 18.9 yards per catch in 2011.

Dovell knows the pressure is on for him to do his part; Ohio returns six starters on offense and is the heavy favorite to again win the MAC East Division.

"There is a little bit of pressure," he said. "With two of the leading receivers leaving, that's pretty rough. We know (Foster) is going to do his part. But they're counting on me and Tyler to fill the roles of those other guys."

Dovell said he was able to glean some tips from Brazill this summer. After missing the bulk of the spring season with a broken thumb, Dovell relished the chance to work with Brazill during June and July when the now pro wide receiver visited Athens.

"He's one of those guys who once he made it to the league, he still came back," Dovell said. "He still took the time to teach us some things."

"Just working out with us and telling us the little odds and ends of what we need to do better," he continued. "I appreciate him a lot."

Tettleton has faith in his new primary targets. Last year, Brazill was a security blanket for the first-time starter. When in doubt, Tettleton looked for No. 7.

This fall, Tettleton said Ohio doesn't necessarily need a dominating No. 1 receiving presence.

"I don't know if you can replace LaVon Brazill but you can have guys that step up and make enough plays to where we can be successful. I think we have those guys," he said.

"Donte Foster, Mario Dovell and Tyler Futrell. I think those guys are going to be the three-headed monster for the receiving corps."

Futrell agreed that the Bobcats have a chance to get by without Brazill if everyone else just elevates their game a little bit. He believes a more balanced approach in the passing game can pay dividends.

"Everybody knew who it was going to on third or fourth down last year. But this time, they have three people to deal with it," he said.

"Hopefully we can mix and match, and find the open guy. Make a bigger play."



Bobcats motivated, focused for 2012

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Aug. 11, 2012

There are certain things the Ohio University football team must do over the next three weeks of fall camp in order to be ready to play in the season opener.

The Bobcats have to replenish their wide receiving corps, find a suitable replacement for Noah Keller at middle linebacker, and straighten out a brand-new punting unit.

But, finding motivation and focus won't be on the 'Cats to-do list. They've already got that in spades, and made it perfectly clear Saturday afternoon during the team's annual Media Day function inside Peden Stadium.

This season is all about unfinished business for Ohio, and that means claiming the program's first Mid-American Conference championship since 1968.

The Bobcats came oh-so-close a year ago. Ohio led 20-0 halftime, but lost 23-20 to Northern Illinois in the MAC Championship game.

"That still eats at us. That's the unfinished business that we have to do this year," said senior tight end Jordan Thompson. "In order to do that, we have to be ready to go week one and carry that momentum through the season."

Head coach Frank Solich, entering his eighth season in Athens, has done a remarkable job rebuilding a once dead-and-forgotten program. Ohio has three MAC East titles during his reign, and the Bobcats begin 2012 as the "team to beat" in the MAC.

It's a far cry from when Solich took over the program. The Bobcats were more likely to be picked last than even third during his first couple seasons.

"It's great. It's a real tribute to our football players, guys that have played here in the past," Solich said. "Those guys are the ones that got the program from where it was — not really being recognized as a threat to win the conference — to now being chosen to win it."

But the biggest accomplishment has so far remained out of reach. The Bobcats are determined to change that in 2012.

"We've been able to get into the MAC Championship game. We've not been able to win it," Solich said. "We were very, very close, but being close is not getting it done."

The Bobcats recognize it won't be easy. Being the favorite confers no advantages on game day. Ohio won't be distracted by outside expectations, nor will they be buying into any predictions said junior flanker Donte Foster.

"People say we should win the league, but I see that as paper talk," he said. "If we don't do the work on the field, then none of that is going to happen."

With a favorable slate of conference games, and a friendly non-conference schedule, it's even possible Ohio could run the table for a 12-0 regular season — if the 'Cats can spring a big road upset in the opener on Sept. 1 at Penn State.

But while fans mull over the possibilities, the Bobcats claim they're only focused on one thing: being the best they can be. Thompson said the 2012 squad has the right mental makeup to handle the external expectations, and reach its potential.

"Not only do other people expect great things, but we expect great things on our team," he said. "We expect to win a lot of ballgames this year because of the depth that we have and the guys we have coming back."

"We believe we have a team worthy of winning."

And a team with the fortitude to work hard enough to make it happen, said senior right guard Eric Herman. Solich's blue-collar, decidedly unflashy approach has been molded into his team's fiber.

"We have to work for this. This isn't something that's given," Herman said. "We earned the preseason pick, we have to go out and earn it again."

"Nothing's guaranteed."



Youth served in first Ohio scrimmage

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Aug. 14, 2012

Over the last 18 months, Kendrick Smith has spent time in three different college football programs.

He was a walk-on at national power LSU in 2010. Smith spent 2011 as a tight end/H-back at a junior college (Blinn). And this fall he's been trying to carve out some playing time for himself on the Ohio defensive line.

What hasn't changed during each of those stops is Smith's explosive athleticism. The 6-foot-3, 245-pound sophomore still has that burst off the edge that coaches like, and got to show it off a few times during the Bobcats' first scrimmage of the fall season Tuesday afternoon inside Peden Stadium.

Smith garnered a sack and a couple of other stops during Ohio's 50-play, live-action scrimmage. The offense had one touchdown scoring drive, capped by Brian Palermo's 3-yard run, and one turnover — Brian Hairston's interception late in the session.

"It felt good to make a play or two," said Smith. "We're just learning and getting better every day."

Smith wasn't the only relatively new face to make a play. Ohio coach Frank Solich said his younger players would get the bulk of the reps during the scrimmage, and that's what happened.

Ohio held out most of its starters, and the first team offense and defense saw roughly only 12 snaps or so. The Bobcats played without three running backs, its starting three wide receivers, three-quarters of its starting defensive line, both starting outside linebackers, one starting safety and one starting cornerback.

With so many sitting out — most for a variety of relatively minor injuries — the scrimmage was cut back by about 20 plays, Solich said. Still, the exercise gave the coaches what they wanted — a chance to view the youth of the roster at game speed. And in that regard, the scrimmage was a success.

"I thought we moved around the field really well," Solich said. "The execution certainly needs to improve, but the speed and physical play of the team was really what you're looking for at this point. We can certainly build off of that."

Unofficially, the offense finished with 188 total yards on 47 total plays. The Bobcats had just two explosive pass plays (more than 15 yards) and didn't have a run for more than eight yards. The lone touchdown drive came on the first series of the day.

Defensive coordinator Jimmy Burrow, whose group played without seven starters, thought his unit held up fairly well against an offense that exerts pressure with different formations and personnel groups, and a rapid, no-huddle pace.

"It was a good day to evaluate young guys and pressure," Burrow said. "Our offense is tough, they do a lot of different things. Can you get lined

up right? Can you get your subs in?"

"I thought we handled it OK. It looked decent for the first scrimmage."

Starting quarterback Tyler Tettleton played just 12 snaps, but was sharp as he completed all three of his passes for 24 yards. Backup Derrius Vick was 5 of 7 for 69 yards, including a 32-yarder to WR Matt Waters on post route that set up Palermo's touchdown run. It was the longest play of the day for the offense, which also included a 19-yard Vick pass to TE Art Jordan.

"I just really wanted to concentrate on making the catch. I felt like I was a little bit open," said Waters, a junior college transfer fresh on the Ohio roster this season. "It was one of those where I was going 'Don't drop it, don't drop it.'"

"Once that was out of the way, things kind of slowed down for me."

Walk-on freshman QB J.D. Sprague was 5 of 7 for 22 yards and had one scramble for eight yards. Freshman QB Greg Windham, coming off a bout with the stomach illness creeping through camp, was 1-for-3 for four yards with the lone interception.

Freshman RB Daz'mond Patterson was the only one of the top four running backs to play; he led all ballcarriers with 30 yards on 11 carries. Palermo finished with 17 yards on nine carries.

Chris Johann was the leading receiver with three catches for 18 yards, while Chase Cochran (four yards) and Dayne Hammond (eight yards) both had two catches.

The offense did have five penalties for 30 yards; the defense was flagged once for five yards. The offense was able run at a fairly high pace as the play clock was never an issue. Offensive coordinator Tim Albin said that was a plus, and so too was the fact there was only one turnover and two sacks.

"I'm more excited about that than anything," Albin said. "The first team looked pretty smooth at it. The second offense did some good things, but they stalled out a couple of times."

The Bobcats have one more full scrimmage scheduled, on Monday, and open the season Sept. 1 with a 12 p.m. kickoff at Penn State. Soon, Ohio will have to break down into scout teams to really hone in for the opener.

That time is not quite here yet, Solich said.

"At some point and time that decision has to be made, but we're not there right now," he said. "We still have a little bit of time to keep bringing some of those young guys along."



Humble Tettleton Boasts Big Numbers

Kevin Allen

USA Today - Aug. 14, 2012

What Ohio coaches appreciate about junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton is that his offensive numbers are inflated and his ego is not.

Last season, he became the first quarterback in school history to pass for more than 3,000 yards. He set 12 school records. He threw for 28 touchdowns and ran for 10. But he still practices as if he's trying to earn his keep on every play.

"He's a tremendous leader and a tough, tough player," Ohio coach Frank Solich said. "Our players love playing for him. He never points a finger and always has the demeanor you want in a quarterback. He never shows disappointment or elation. He just moves on to the next play. So we have the right guy."

The only numbers that Tettleton seems comfortable discussing are the team's desire to improve on last year's 10-win season, which was the program's first in 43 years.

"We want to do more," Tettleton said. "We want to get 11 wins year, win the MAC, and get to a bigger bowl game. Our theme this year is that we have some unfinished business."

Tettleton's professional attitude might be inherited because he is the son of former major leaguer Mickey Tettleton, who produced 245 home runs over 14 seasons with four teams. Tyler has fond memories of serving as ball boy for the Texas Rangers when he was 6 and 7 years old.

"I remember to this day him walking in every day, and (Tyler's) uniform would be hanging up in the locker next to mine," the elder Tettleton said. "It was just great times being out on the field at 3 o'clock and seeing him hitting in the stadium and chasing down fly balls in the outfield."

Tyler was a quality baseball player, but his passions started to move toward more action-packed sports before he got to middle school. "He was always a kid who could run, and they stuck him center field and I think he got bored out there," Mickey Tettleton said.

But the lessons Tyler learned from watching his father on the diamond do translate to the football field. The Tettletons still talk often about the mental aspects of being a successful athlete.

"We have talked about it a lot, especially over the last few months," Mickey Tettleton said. "Coming off the year he had, I talked to him about not putting added pressure on himself to match those numbers. I told him to go out and be consistent, play smart and the numbers will take care of themselves."

Ohio recruiters were keenly aware of young Tettleton's family background. "We are not going to turn a blind eye to good DNA," joked offensive coordinator Tim Albin.

Tettleton flew under the radar as a high school quarterback in Norman, Okla., because he has to stretch to measure in at 6-0 and he missed his junior season to injury. Ohio was one of three schools that believed he

could play college quarterback.

"We knew he was talented, but our crystal ball wasn't this clear to know he was going to end up with close to 40 touchdowns," Albin said.

Albin said there was no issue with his height. "You can't measure heart," Albin said. "And he has the work ethic to be a great quarterback."

Tyler's 2011 heroics included the game-winning touchdown when Ohio beat Utah State 24-23 for the first bowl win in school history.

His numbers last season were certainly helped by the presence of LaVon Brazill, who had 74 catches and then was drafted by the Indianapolis Colts.

"We had good people up front last season, and we had receivers who could get things done," Solich said. "What that mix will be this season is uncertain. But I do know we will have a good offensive front. We have lost four receivers who caught a lot of balls for us. Whether we can replace them remains to be seen."

The top four receivers on the roster now — Dontè Foster, Mario Dovell, Tyler Futrell and Chase Cochrane — all have promise. Foster had 30 receptions and five touchdowns last season.

"I have so many guys around me who can make plays if I get them the ball," Tettleton said.

He ran for 658 yards last season, but he doesn't consider himself a running quarterback. "I'm a pass-first guy," he said.

The younger Tettleton plans to continue to talk to his father about staying focused on his team objective.

"We talk about not letting anything outside affect the way I'm playing," Tyler said.

Mickey Tettleton said he enjoys talking football with his son. "It doesn't bother me one bit that he didn't pick baseball," he said. "Of all the things he has accomplished, what I'm most proud of is how he had handled things."



Blankenship not slowing down

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Aug. 16, 2012

Beau Blankenship was supposed to spend fall camp battling Ryan Boykin for the honor of being the Bobcats' starting running back.

But, thanks to Boykin's hamstring injury early in camp, that hasn't materialized. Instead, Blankenship appears to have the starter's job locked up halfway through camp.

It's not like Blankenship, a 5-foot-9, 200-pound dynamo, will slow down anyway. The redshirt junior, who was a high school teammate with Ohio quarterback Tyler Tettleton in Norman, Okla., approaches every day, every play the same way — at full speed.

"I try to go 100 miles an hour when I'm training or practicing," said Blankenship, who started his collegiate career at Iowa State before transferring to Ohio. "I always prepared like I was the starter even when I wasn't.

"I'm approaching things the same way now," he added. "I'm trying to be the best I can be and practicing just like I always have."

That approach helped Blankenship emerge in the second half of the 2011 season. He played in 13 games last season and ended the year as the top sub at RB. He averaged just under five yards a carry and finished with 462 yards and four touchdowns.

Ohio offensive coordinator Tim Albin likes the way Blankenship attacks the line of scrimmage.

"He's got really good balance. He's quick. And he can get his foot in the ground and get to top speed better than any guy that I got," Albin said. "He's powerful. He can make the cut and get to full speed better than anyone we have."

Though he's on the top line of the depth chart right now, Blankenship said that's not his number one goal. He just wants to get better.

"I'm not really worried about that. I'm just doing what I can do and trying to let the other stuff take of itself."

Three's company

Tettleton and Blankenship aren't the only Ohio offensive leaders from the Norman area. Junior wide receiver Donte Foster is from nearby Guthrie, Okla.

Foster, who joined Ohio after a short stint at Seminole State (JC), is the club's leading returning receiver with 30 catches for 352 yards and five touchdowns last season.

It's entirely possible that Ohio's leading passer, rusher and receiver could all be from the same concentrated geographical area this season.

"We're a thousand miles away from home," Foster said. "It's neat to think about that.

"We're just trying to make our state happy, and the Ohio Bobcat nation happy."

Foster will also try to help the Bobcats forget the heavy graduation losses in the receiving corps. Ohio lost 120 receptions from a year ago to graduation.

"A lot of people think the wideouts are rebuilding, but I see us as reloading," Foster said. "We just need to be able to step up and make plays."

Camp surprise

One of the unexpected contributors in fall camp has been sophomore defensive end Kendric Smith. At 6-foot-3 and 245 pounds, Smith has the ideal frame for rush end in Ohio's 4-3 defensive alignment.

Smith has played well so far in camp, and turned in several noteworthy plays in the Bobcats' first scrimmage on Tuesday. Currently, Smith is slotted on the third team defensive unit — which isn't bad since he's relative new to the position.

Smith played tight end the past two years; he was a walk-on at SEC power LSU for the 2010 season and last fall he played as a tight end/H-back at Blinn College (JC) in Brenham, Texas.

He admits his journey to Athens has been a long one, but he thinks he's found a home.

"It seems like I've been in a lot of places, but I'm definitely glad to be in the (hunter) Green," he said. "The main thing now is studying the (defensive) playbook. Like really studying, like it's a class."

Odds and ends

RB Ryan Boykin has now sat out a week of camp with a hamstring injury. ...CB Travis Carrie, a three-year starter and team captain, has not practiced since injuring his shoulder last Friday. His status moving forward remains uncertain. ...The Bobcats will hold their second full-contact scrimmage on Saturday morning, at 10 a.m., inside Peden Stadium. ...Ohio's season opener is Sept. 1 at Penn State. The game will air live on ESPN and has a 12 p.m. kickoff.



Carrie out for the season

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Aug. 23, 2012

Travis Carrie's season ended before it even began.

Carrie, a fifth-year senior cornerback, returning starter and team captain, will miss the 2012 season, Ohio University football coach Frank Solich said Thursday after the Bobcats wrapped up practice inside Peden Stadium.

Carrie will soon have surgery on his injured shoulder. The injury occurred Aug. 10 in Ohio's fall camp. Since then, the team and Carrie have explored several options for possible treatment in order to avoid surgery.

None, however, could get Carrie back on the field this season.

"(Carrie) will not be able to play this season. It will require surgery," Solich said.

Carrie was hurt on a relatively routine play. In 7-on-7 drills, Carrie lunged over a receiver on a slant route with his arm out to deflect the pass. After landing, he immediately removed himself from the field.

That was two weeks ago, and was the last time Carrie took part in any on-the-field practice activities.

Carrie's status is a definite hit to the Bobcats, the clear preseason pick to win the Mid-American Conference East Division and MAC Championship game. Ohio opens the season Sept. 1 at Penn State.

A cornerstone of the secondary, Carrie had the size (5-10, 212 pounds) to be effective against the run and the athletic ability to also be the club's 'shutdown' corner. The Antioch, Calif. native played as a true freshman in 2008 as part of Ohio's nickel package, then took a medical redshirt in 2009.

Carrie became a starter at corner in 2010, and last fall had a breakthrough season with career-highs in tackles (49), passes defended (17), interceptions (4) and punt return average (12.5). He was named Second Team All-MAC last season, and this summer was named to the 2012 Thorpe Award watch list, Phil Steele's preseason First Team All-MAC team and one of five MAC players on the inaugural Senior Bowl watch list.

Carrie was regarded as perhaps the best pro prospect on Ohio's roster this season, and one of the best defensive players in the MAC.

Ohio won't just miss Carrie on defense; he was a top-flight special teams threat as well. Solich has said Carrie would be a terrific running back with athletic ability, and had hoped to showcase those skills more this season with a more pronounced role on punt and kick-off returns.

Carrie also excelled as a 'gunner' on the punt team. He was part of the reason that Ohio opponents returned just nine of 54 punts in 2011.

Solich said he anticipated the surgery being done "quickly."

The decision for what happens next will be up to Carrie. He has already graduated from Ohio, but could petition the NCAA for a sixth-year of eligibility under the medical hardship provision. Carrie could also move on and try to pursue a professional career.

"That's a question he's going to have to answer," Solich said. "He's thinking through a lot of things.

"I think he'd obviously like to play. But since that's been ruled out, he has the option of coming back next year," the coach continued. "We'll file a petition for that, and he has great grounds for it.

"It doesn't seem like that would be a problem. But it's a decision for him to make."

On the field, Ohio's cornerback group just got a lot younger. Redshirt junior Jamil Shaw was expected to start opposite Carrie, with sophomores Lorenzo Fisher and Ian Wells, and redshirt freshman Devin Bass all expected to get reps. Now, Fisher, Wells or Bass will likely be inserted into a starting role.

On special teams, with Carrie out, freshman RB Daz'mond Patterson, Bass and senior WR Ryan Clark will get more opportunities on punt and kick-off returns.

Carrie, speaking at the MAC media day in Detroit in July, said his goal for life after football included being a athletic trainer who worked with developing kids.

"I love helping out. I love being a part of somebody's success," he said.

For now, he'll have to help the Bobcats in an advisory role instead of being an on-the-field leader. It wasn't what he had in mind a month ago, but injuries are and will always be a part of the game.

"No guarantees," he said in July. "You never know what can happen, how quickly things can change. You have to approach every practice, every game like it could be your last."



Penn State opponent to wear helmet decals honoring victims of child abuse

Eric Adelson

Yahoo Sports - Aug. 25, 2012

The Ohio football team will wear special decals on its helmets to honor victims of child abuse when it meets Penn State next Saturday in the season opener for both teams.

The Bobcats' equipment staff has been working with the Penn State athletic department to design the stickers, which will mirror patches worn by the Nittany Lions throughout the season.

The gesture is meant "to join the Penn State team in showing support for child abuse victims," Ohio athletic director Jim Schnaus wrote in an email to Yahoo! Sports on Saturday.

The game is Penn State's first since the conviction of former assistant coach Jerry Sandusky, who was found guilty in June of 45 criminal counts of sexual abuse of 10 boys. It will also be the team's first game under new coach Bill O'Brien, who said on the first day of practice earlier this month, "We have to understand our responsibilities to children."

Penn State was dealt major NCAA sanctions after the Sandusky conviction and the ensuing Freeh Commission report, which was ordered by the school itself. The sanctions included a \$60 million penalty, a four-year football postseason ban and a vacating of all wins dating back to 1998.

Ohio's decision to wear the decals was finalized late this week. According to the NCAA, no other teams have thus far requested permission to wear special decals in games against Penn State this season.

Ohio is coming off its first 10-win season since 1968 and its first bowl win, a 24-23 victory over Utah State in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl.



Bobcats eye big things in 2012

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Aug. 25, 2012

It's time.

Simply put, that's how the Bobcats are approaching the 2012 season.

The program has been rebuilt, and is now a model for consistency in the Mid-American Conference. Veteran head coach Frank Solich has put his stamp on this team — from off-season conditioning, to summer school, to the training table, to the soon-to-be constructed practice facility, to the program's name recognition across the country.

The Bobcats are winning games, claiming division titles, earning bowl bids and — thanks to last season's breakthrough season — even winning bowl games and garnering 10-win campaigns.

The one thing Ohio hasn't accomplished during the Solich era is win an outright MAC title. Anything short of that in 2012 will ring hollow. The Bobcats were the preseason pick to win the MAC East and the MAC Championship game; Ohio is also getting national media attention as a team which could possibly go undefeated and 'crash the BCS'.

It's time.

"Unfinished business," said senior captain and tight end Jordan Thompson, who was citing the team's motto for 2012. "We need to keep moving this forward."

Forward ultimately means getting back to, and winning the MAC Championship game. Ford Field in Detroit was the site of Ohio's biggest disappointment last season; it was where the Bobcats played brilliantly for 30 minutes then collapsed when the goal was within reach. Northern Illinois erased a 20-0 halftime deficit and won 23-20 as a field goal split the uprights as time expired.

The Bobcats shook off that loss to post the first bowl win in the program's history with a last minute comeback over Utah State in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl. As thrilling as the victory was, it will be the MAC Championship game loss that drives Ohio this season as much as the bowl win.

"Of course that sticks with you," said junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton. "To come so close, and then have it not happen. That's tough to take and something we want to take care of."

The Bobcats have motivation, they have continuity (14 starters return) and they have a roster as talented as any Solich has put together in Athens.

Can Ohio pull it all together and post the kind of season some believe is possible?

Offense

Tettleton, unbelievably, was one of the club's biggest question marks heading into last season. It turned out everyone underestimated the first-

year starter.

Locked in from the start, Tettleton put together the single-best season at the the position in Ohio history. He completed 64 percent of his passes for 3,306 yards, and notched 28 touchdowns against 10 interceptions. He was also the team's second-leading rusher with 621 yards and added 10 rushing touchdowns.

Add it all up, and Tettleton set 12 new single-season Ohio records. A true dual-threat option at QB, Tettleton's emergence as on-field leader and playmaker will be just as important this fall.

"We think he can up that competition percentage a bit. He's got a year of experience to draw on. There's reason to believe he'll continue to get better," said Ohio quarterbacks coach Gerry Gdowski.

When Ohio clicked offensively last season, the club's hurry-up approach was equal parts ground-and-pound, dink-and-dunk and big shots down the field. The Bobcats have pieces in place to ensure that versatility remains.

It'll start on the offensive line where the interior three starters return. The two new tackles — junior John Prior and Ryan McGrath — were worked in during the course of the season and will man the edges. But with a collection of potential bruisers in the middle with guards Eric Herman, Vince Carlotta and Jon Lechner and centers Skyer Allen and JD Bales, Ohio shouldn't see a substantial drop off in its ability to generate yards through the run game.

The offensive line will have depth, experience and size. The running back spot will also be deep. Junior Beau Blankenship (462 yards) and Ryan Boykin (430) split time as the primary backup last season, and will give the backfield a 1-2 punch. Smaller, speedier options in Kyle Hammonds and newcomer Daz'mond Patterson will be intriguing change-of-pace options.

At receiver, Ohio will need to replace 120 receptions from last season and will have to find a new No. 1 target with the departure of flanker LaVon Brazill — who is now making a push to be a starter as a sixth-round draft pick with Indianapolis.

Ohio will continue to spread the field, but may use more tight ends to do it. Thompson, a four-year player, is rock solid, and Troy Hill has the length and athleticism to be a vertical threat down the middle. Derek Roback was the second tight end of choice last season and remains a viable candidate, while Tyler Knight gives the position a bigger, more physical option.

At wideout, Donte Foster returns as a starter and is the logical choice to be the new No. 1 receiver given his experience, athleticism and knack for making tough choices. Senior Tyler Futrell and junior Mario Dovell are slotted to be the other starters, but will be getting first-team gameday reps for the first time.

There are other potential breakout players outside as well. Chase Cochran had the best fall camp out of any of the wideouts and may yet push into the starting lineup. Bakari Bussey is a senior who has developed better blocking skills and will see more time. Senior Ryan Clark, a converted corner, is on the small side, but has tremendous speed and will help stretch the field.

And then there's Ohio's pace. Offensive coordinator Tim Albin found last season that the Bobcats averaged more yards per play the faster they ran. He wants the Bobcats to continue to try to find ways to decrease the time between snaps.

"Pace, pace, pace," he said. "We want to go faster, as fast as we can."

Defense

It will start up front for Ohio this season as four seniors will make up the starting defensive line, and it's a group that has to find a way to apply more pressure to the pocket.

The Bobcats were ninth in the MAC last season in sacks, and those often came on blitzes which further exposed a secondary that had to cover too long in stretches.

Defensive ends Tremayne Scott and Corey Hasting, and tackles Neal Huyhn and Carl Jones give Ohio a good first four — finding a second group has also come along during camp as the Bobcats could go eight to 10 deep. The Bobcats were solid against the run last season — with a couple of exceptions. But if the pass rush improves, Ohio could make a substantial jump.

At linebacker, Ohio will have a hole in the middle with the departure of four-year starter Noah Keller. But the Bobcats have experience on the outside with Alphonso Lewis and Jelani Woseley, and will likely have junior Keith Moore and redshirt freshman Ben Russell splitting time in the middle.

And while Ohio will usually lose a linebacker in a nickel package, Lewis and Woseley both are getting experience at more than one linebacker spot. It means keeping both on the field more often is a probability.

The secondary entered camp as definitely a strong suit, but has been hit by injury. The biggest loss is fifth-year senior cornerback Travis Carrie, who miss 2012 after a shoulder injury suffered the first week in camp.

Carrie may have been Ohio's best overall athlete, and there was no doubt he was the team's best cover corner and return man.

"It's a big loss," Ohio defensive coordinator Jimmy Burrow said. "It opens up a hole on the depth chart, you have to adjust and move a guy around here and there.

"But now, we have to have some other guys step up."

At safety, returning starter Gerald Moore has missed a large chunk of camp, but is expected to be ready for the opener. Moore (84 tackles in 2012) will be needed more than ever as an anchor in the back end of the defense.

Sophomore Josh Kristoff (52 tackles) will be the other starter, and started the final 10 games of 2011. Sophomore Thad Ingol worked into the rotation as well last season, while nickel standouts Nathan Carpenter and Mose Denton are also getting extra work at safety to provide more depth.

The Bobcats will be young at corner. Junior Jamil Shaw will be a first-year starter, while either sophomore Lorenzo Fisher or sophomore Ian Wells will man the other side. Redshirt freshman Devin Bass and senior Octavius Leftwich — moved back to corner from the nickel — will also see plenty of time as well.

Ohio returns eight defensive starters. The hope is that pays off with more turnovers.

"We were good defensively last year, but we think we can be great this year," Moore said. "We lost a big piece with (Keller) but there's a lot of guys who know what they're doing out there."

Ohio has no concerns at kicker where Matt Weller returns as a four-year starter and one of the best in the MAC. There is some doubt at punter where redshirt freshman Grant Venham will be learning on the go this season.

Schedule

The reason for a lot of the optimism surrounding the Bobcats this fall is the schedule.

Ohio opens at Penn State on Sept 1, but after that the Bobcats may be favored in each and every game the rest of the way.

The Nittany Lions, hammered by NCAA sanctions this summer, are breaking in a new coach with new offensive schemes. That game will give the Bobcats its biggest spotlight of the season and could be the spark to ignite a terrific 2012.

After that, Ohio's only other non-conference challenge should be a road trip to Marshall, where the Thundering Herd will be eager to avenge a 44-7 setback in Athens last year.

In MAC play, the Bobcats avoid West Division favorites Northern Illinois and Toledo during the regular season. None of Ohio's MAC foes had a winning record in 2011.

It's a schedule tailor-made for a lot of wins.

It's a roster built to compete for a league championship.

And, with a couple of breaks, it's a year that could end up in Bobcat lore.

"The potential is there to do the things we want to do and to move the program in the direction we want to move it," Solich said. "It won't be easy. We've got to work for it.

"We'll see."



Previewing the Game of the Week

Peter King

SI.com - Aug. 26, 2012

Ohio University at Penn State, Saturday at noon. The game's a big one for all the obvious reasons -- the most obvious being that I went to Ohio and we might have a chance to beat Penn State in State College. I also noticed the other day that SI.com's Holly Anderson picked the Bobcats to go 12-0 this season. Using the deduction skills honed at Ohio 35 years ago, I figured that must mean Holly has the Bobcats beating the Nittany Lions. OU fever, baby.

So I got in touch with the OU quarterback, Tyler (Son of Mickey) Tettleton, and took the temperature of our crew before the big game in Happy Valley.

"Ever play in a place with 107,000 fans, like you'll see at Penn State?"

Tettleton: "No. We played at Tennessee a couple years ago, but I didn't play. The people just went on and on, way up in the stands. It's pretty intense at Marshall; they've got the craziest fans -- people everywhere you go. The crowd at Rutgers was pretty big last year. But not like this."

"It'll be a pretty emotional atmosphere there, probably. The fans at Penn State will be all fired up to defend their program after so many people have been critical of it."

Tettleton: "Yeah, I know. There's not much we can do about that. I know our thoughts and prayers go out to the victims, and I really feel bad for the people involved. It's a terrible thing that happened. But our coach, coach [Frank] Solich, has told us, 'Treat it like another game. There's nothing we can do about all that other stuff.' We just need to go in there and play football and not worry about anything else."

"But 107,000 people. It'll be intense."

Tettleton: "Well, 107,000 is no different to me than playing in front of 25,000 here. There's a couple more bleachers. Not going to change the game for me."

"How do you like your chances?"

Tettleton: "We think we have a good chance if we play our game. We feel like this is an amazing opportunity for us. We win this, and we keep winning, and we'll have a chance to get ranked in the Top 25."

"So I've got a way for you to really get at your father. Tell him you thought he was a home run hitter in the major leagues, and now you've found out that Derek Jeter hit more home runs than him, so how good could he really have been?"

Tettleton: "That's a good one."

"Why not baseball for you?"

Tettleton: "Well, I played a lot of it, but I think I found out I was more of a physical sports type of guy. Being out in the outfield, that can get old. I was bored with it."

"How tall are you?"

Tettleton: "Six-0."

"You watch Drew Brees and Russell Wilson?"

Tettleton: "Sure. I love watching Brees. And the fact that Russell Wilson's competing for the starting job in Seattle ... is really great motivation for me. It shows I might have a chance at the next level. Those guys proved size doesn't matter."

"What's your major? What do you want to do with your life if you don't play in the NFL?"

Tettleton: "Sports Management. Whatever happens with football, I've got to do something in sports. I love sports. I always thought it would be fun to be a sports agent. I'd like to stay involved with sports somehow."

We made a little small talk, and I told him when I was a freshman in 1976 I saw Bruce Springsteen on campus, in the little auditorium on the College Green. And afterward, Bruce and the band went drinking in the bars on Court Street.

"Bruce and the band partying with the students!" he said. "No way! That is awesome! Awesome!"

Read more: http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/2012/writers/peter_king/08/26/mmqb/index.html#ixzz25ZKinmIf

Highly regarded Ohio University team embraces ‘tremendous opportunity’ to play at Beaver Stadium

Guy Cipriano

Centre Daily Times - Aug. 27, 2012

Penn State's preparations for Saturday's opener against Ohio University started last week with film study and multiple practice periods geared toward the Bobcats.

It didn't take long for veterans to manufacture a conclusion: the Bobcats represent the toughest Week 1 assignment of their college careers.

"If you watch them on tape, they are good," fifth-year senior defensive end Pete Massaro said. "They are a good football team. They have a lot of experience coming back. They are going to be a very tough opponent."

Three of Penn State's past four Week 1 opponents — Indiana State, Youngstown State and Coastal Carolina — presented tap-ins. Akron, which visited Beaver Stadium in 2009, is a recent Mid-American Conference bottom feeder.

Ohio is predicted to win the MAC East. Some are viewing the Bobcats, who went 10-4 and won a bowl game for the first time in school history last season, as a potential Bowl Championship Series buster.

When the schools reached a scheduling agreement in 2008, it appeared the game would pad both athletic department's coffers. The Bobcats are receiving \$850,000 for visiting Beaver Stadium, while Penn State is receiving a lucrative seventh home game.

Four years later, the game offers one of the MAC's top programs a major showcase. ESPN is broadcasting the game, which begins at noon, and the television audience might swell because of the curiosity surrounding Penn State's on-field response to recent NCAA sanctions. Penn State officials are hoping Saturday's crowd exceeds 100,000 fans.

"It's a tremendous opportunity," Ohio athletic director Jim Schaus said in a telephone interview. "We want our student-athletes to play against teams of the highest level. It helps financially in our budget and it helps building a program and in recruiting if we're playing a high-quality opponent on national TV."

Neither the Bobcats nor coach Frank Solich should be fazed by the scene. Ohio returns 15 starters from a team that lost four games by a combined 19 points. The Bobcats recently visited Ohio State and Tennessee, two of college football's most hostile environments. The Bobcats played both teams tough, losing to Tennessee 34-23 in 2009 and Ohio State 26-14 in 2008. The Buckeyes handled the Bobcats 43-7 in 2010.

Solich's Ohio tenure, which started in 2005, includes a road victory at Illinois and home victory against Pittsburgh. He called playing at Penn State a "huge challenge."

"But we have been to Ohio State twice and probably should have won one of those games," he added. "We played Tennessee within range. We beat Illinois, we beat Pittsburgh. We have some things to fall back on. I'm interested to see how we respond to this situation."

This isn't the first time Solich has groomed a team to play at Penn State.

His 2002 Nebraska team lost to the Nittany Lions 40-7 before 110,753 fans.

Solich replaced Tom Osborne in 1998 and led Nebraska to a 58-19 record in six seasons, but athletic director Steve Pederson fired Solich after the Cornhuskers went 9-3 in 2003.

After a year away from coaching, Solich landed at Ohio, which won just 11 games from 2001-04. Two key assistants — offensive coordinator Tim Albin and defensive coordinator Jimmy Burrow — worked with Solich at Nebraska. They are among four assistants who were part of Solich's original Ohio staff.

"That continuity is a plus for our football team," Solich said. "We have a lot of contacts around the country. We recruit the entire country, not just Ohio and the surrounding states."

The staff has evolved since arriving in Athens, a small city in rural southeastern Ohio that houses 22,000 college students. The Bobcats' offense featured rugged Nebraska-like characteristics early in Solich's tenure, but they now scrap the fullback for a third wide receiver in many formations.

Ohio averaged 248.7 passing plays and 30.5 points per game last season. Quarterback Tyler Tettleton, the son of former Detroit Tigers catcher Mickey Tettleton, returns after passing for a school-record 3,302 yards last season.

The style has helped Ohio increase its talent pool. The Bobcats' roster includes players from 18 states, including Pennsylvania, Florida, Texas and California. Altoona's Tyler Futrell, Neal Huynh and Alphonso Lewis, and Hollidaysburg's Ryan McGrath, are among the projected starters.

"There's no question we are getting more athletic guys," Solich said.

Increased television exposure is helping Ohio raise its profile. The Bobcats' final six 2011 games were aired on ESPN networks. Ohio is already scheduled to appear on ESPN networks five times this season.

"It's huge for our alumni and it's huge for our brand name," Schaus said. "We're Ohio University, we're in Athens, Ohio, we wear green and white. We're not Ohio State. We're not this other school. The exposure is tremendous for our program. We don't take it for granted."

The renewed interest helped the school implement a plan to improve its football facilities, and season ticket sales are up 92 percent over last season.

Throw it together, and Penn State might be facing its toughest opener since Miami's 2001 visit.

"They are a heck of a football team with a great coach in Frank Solich," Penn State coach Bill O'Brien said. "That's going to be a very tough opener."



'Cats don't anticipate noise problems

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Aug. 27, 2012

As a kid growing up in Altoona, Pa., Tyler Futrell attended several Penn State games at the Nittany Lions' Beaver Stadium.

He knows full well what to expect in terms of noise when the Bobcats open the season there on Saturday.

"Oh man, even as a fan in the stands it's hard to hear yourself think when it gets rocking," said Futrell, a fifth-year senior Ohio wide receiver. "I know the crowd noise is unbelievable there."

With a listed capacity of 106,572, Beaver Stadium could be the site this weekend for the biggest crowd to ever witness a Bobcat football game. The largest crowd ever to see Ohio play football was 105,075, when the Bobcats traveled to Columbus to take on the Buckeyes in 2010.

Even if a sell-out falls short, Saturday's game could be just the third time more than 100,000 fans were on hand for an Ohio game. Junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton on the field when the 'Cats traveled to Tennessee early in the 2009 season, and the third-largest crowd for an Ohio game (95,535) showed up despite an all-day rainstorm.

"That was amazing, that was such a fun atmosphere to be a part of," Tettleton said. "That's what we're expecting this time too."

Because of stops at UT, and OSU, and Virginia Tech, and Missouri, and so on during head coach Frank Solich's tenure with the Bobcats, Ohio shouldn't be fazed by a name opponent from a power conference or a large away crowd. What could be a factor is the sheer noise that more than 100,000 people can generate; will the Bobcats find it tough to run their no-huddle attack in such circumstances?

To prep for the possibility, Ohio has been piping in loud crowd noise for the last week during its practices inside Peden Stadium.

"Classes hadn't started yet so we were allowed to, as you say, jack it up as loud as we wanted to," Solich joked on a MAC conference call Monday.

But the way Ohio runs its offense should also help combat the effect of loud crowd noise. The Bobcats never huddle, and usually never use a cadence to snap the ball. In theory, Ohio will never have to strain to hear the play call — it's signaled in visually — and is used to working with a silent count.

"When we were at Tennessee a couple years back, the crowd played a little bit of a factor but that was when we were under center and were trying to make calls at the line," said senior tight end Jordan Thompson.

"This new offense, we don't make calls. That's the thing. It really doesn't matter if you can hear each other or not because it's structured so that the crowd isn't a factor."

Solich, 1-1 as a head coach against Penn State, took his 2002 Nebraska Cornhuskers to Beaver Stadium. He has first-hand experience to draw on.

"Their stadium can reverberate sound to where it maybe even makes it a little louder," he said. "We're hoping from the distraction part of it, offensively, that it should not be significant. We'll obviously see here in a

short period of time."

Ohio also has experience along the offensive line and at quarterback. Both should help the 'Cats navigate through the noise from what should be an emotionally charged crowd on Saturday.

"We've got an experienced line coming back. We've got an experienced quarterback coming back," Solich said. "If anyone should be able to handle that, it should be our group."

New look

Ohio players wore their new green helmets in Monday's practice. The green helmets, which have a matte finish, are expected to make their debut Saturday at Penn State.

The helmets also feature green chinstraps and facemasks as well, which Thompson said take a bit to get used to.

"I like them. I think it's a good look," he said. "You wouldn't think it'd be a big deal, but seeing through a different colored facemask for the first time does feel different."

"We got a couple days to break them in," he added. "Plus once we're out there on the field, it'll be more of a thing for the fans."

Still undecided

Ohio released its first post fall camp two-deep depth chart on Monday. Solich still hasn't named a starter for punter where freshman Grant Venham and redshirt sophomore Matt Ringle have battled it out for the past three weeks.

In either case, a first-time college player will have to punt on the road in front of 100,000 or so on Saturday. Solich said he's not concerned.

"He's going to be surrounded by a good group of guys," Solich said. "He just has to take a couple of steps and punt the ball."

Mums the word

As is typical this time of year, Solich became tight-lipped in terms of Ohio injuries during his Monday press conference. He wouldn't comment when asked if anyone is expected to miss the game Saturday.

Solich is reluctant to give the opposition any information he wouldn't be privy to from the other side.

"Yeah, I'd like to hold on that as we come down the stretch because obviously there's a lot of questions both teams have about one another leading into this ballgame," the coach said. "And I don't want to answer any questions for them right now, as they're not answering, of course, any questions for us. It just makes sense."

PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Ohio University quarterback takes different path

Scott Brown

Pittsburgh Tribune-Review - Aug. 28, 2012

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Solich is reluctant to give the opposition any information he wouldn't be privy to from the other side.

"Yeah, I'd like to hold on that as we come down the stretch because obviously there's a lot of questions both teams have about one another leading into this ballgame," the coach said. "And I don't want to answer any questions for them right now, as they're not answering, of course, any questions for us. It just makes sense."



Column: Some little guys have big plans, too

Jim Litke

Associated Press - Aug. 29, 2012

It's a guaranteed payday, sure, but there's rarely much glory in being the opponent. The way it usually works, a small school opens the college season against a much-bigger one at their place, with little more than a puncher's chance of winning. By the luck of the draw, the first team to venture into the Nittany Lions' den in the post-Paterno era turns out to be Ohio U.

"We've been at it a little more than three weeks now and we've prepared well in practice," Bobcats coach Frank Solich began Tuesday. "This week we've addressed how, if we're going to be as good as we think we are, we've got to be great on the road. We've talked about the travel, the hotel, all the other distractions, we've even cranked up the sound at practice the last couple of days to give the players a sense of what it's like to play in front of 108,000 people.

"But I've been in that stadium before," he added a moment later. "And the noise we're simulating is not close to what we're going to get."

Solich has plenty of big-game experience, but he knows replicating the emotional pitch at Penn State is tougher still. Before taking over at Ohio seven years ago, his first head-coaching job came in 1997 at Nebraska. There, Solich had to follow the equally legendary Tom Osborne after 19 seasons as one of Osborne's assistants. He was eager to get started then, the way his Penn State counterpart, Bill O'Brien, will be Saturday afternoon. But Solich knows plenty of things about this debut will be different, too.

The child sex-abuse scandal centered around former Penn State defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky cost Joe Paterno his job, his legacy, and may have even hastened his death from cancer last January. The NCAA sanctions levied in July left many in Happy Valley seething.

"After what happened, they'll have that circle-the-wagons mentality. They've been through a lot," Solich said. "They lost nine or 10 players through transfers, but those that stayed will be united in what they want to be about this season. In the end, they'll be ready to do what they've done for many years at Penn State, which is play excellent football. They'll want to set the tone early. We'll have our hands full right from the start."

But little guys sometimes harbor big plans, too. Solich has been preparing for this kind of game almost from the moment he arrived at Ohio U.

In recent years, his teams have taken games against Pitt, Illinois, Tennessee, Rutgers and Ohio State — twice — to diminish the fear factor implicit in facing big-time programs on the road. Plus, these Bobcats are coming off a 10-4 season after winning six of their last seven, a MAC East Division title, and their first-ever bowl game — with even bigger things expected this time around. Solich's staff at Ohio has remained largely intact throughout his tenure, and in quarterback Tyler Tettleton, he's got a fourth-year quarterback who knows the system intimately, handles pressure well and just completed the most productive season of any passer in school history.

"We like our chances," said Tettleton, who comes by his confidence easily. He's the son of two-time former All-Star catcher Mickey Tettleton of the Texas Rangers. "Anytime you're going up against a team that's in the BCS, the Big Ten and it's the first game of year, there's obviously going to be a lot of emotion — especially after what happened there. ... Being a college

football fan, I followed it. It was a tough situation. The victims will be in our thoughts and prayers, but at some point it's going to be a football game like lots of other games.

"And being honest, I'll admit we're excited to play in front of that big a crowd, with that many more people watching, because we'll know pretty quick whether the goals we set — a Top 25 ranking, getting back to the MAC Championship and another bowl game — are realistic."

Solich believes that if that question is answered early in the game, it won't be response the Bobcats are hoping for. He expects the Nittany Lions to "surge" at the start of the game — "It's bound to be physical, we're going to have to match that intensity with some of our own right away — and given the emotions roiling the crowd, more than once or twice afterward.

"At some point, maybe when the game is close and they're building momentum, all that nervous energy in the crowd is going to give them a lift," Solich continued. "And we've told our players, 'Nobody in the stands is going to come down and contribute. It's going to come down to the guys on the field, so don't forget those are the only people you're playing.

"We've proven we're a pretty good football team, and we've played that way in tough situations against some storied programs in the past. And as long as we don't forget that," he said finally, "we should be all right."

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press.

A brother's impact fuels Ohio's Corey Hasting

FRANK BODANI

York Daily Record - Aug. 29, 2012

York, PA - Corey Hasting, a determined but non-descript defensive end, was living his story 16 months ago.

He was a former walk-on at Ohio University and had pushed past the odds.

He had earned that elusive scholarship.

Then he earned a starting spot, the same one he will fill Saturday at Penn State.

He was a business administration major proving most everyone wrong. Things made sense.

And then he received a text message on April 21, 2011.

He was in class. He would call his mother later.

"No, leave and call me now," she responded.

He did and she was crying hysterically.

It was about his brother, his hero of sorts.

Now, everything about his story would always be about someone else, too.

* * *

Scotty Hasting is two years older than Corey.

They played sports together, Scotty usually winning, always pushing.

"Everything I learned from him," Corey said. "He taught me how to be cool with friends and to talk to girls, how to go about things in a respectful manner.

"He's the older brother. To be better than him is what I'd strive for."

While Corey focused on football and college, Scotty moved from one job to another before joining the Army.

As soon as he finished boot camp, his platoon was shipped to Afghanistan.

He left behind a wife and a year-old son.

"Obviously, I was kind of worried for him because it was right when the war was really getting heavy and ugly for our troops," Corey said. "I was really scared for him but confident he would do well ..."

Corey learned that his brother's main job was patrolling Afghani camps looking for al-Qaeda and the explosives they hide.

On that April day in 2011, he entered a hut, searching.

Suddenly, someone jumped from behind a wall, maybe 10 feet away.

They made eye contact for a moment.

And as Scotty dropped his metal detector and reached for his gun, the man began spraying his automatic weapon.

Scotty was hit 14 times.

Several times in his shoulders, four times in a hip, once through a thigh. A lung collapsed. His kidney was nicked.

Fortunately, his bullet-proof vest caught four more shots, barely keeping one from

entering his neck.

That saved his life.

So did a quick evacuation to an Army hospital, then to Germany where his pulse suddenly vanished. He underwent emergency surgery to move an artery.

Finally, he arrived at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Bethesda, Md.

Corey and his family only knew Scott was in critical condition.

Corey sat alone that first night, thinking, "What did I say last to him? Did I tell him I loved him? Did I tell him I miss him? Could I have been a better brother?"

When he and his family made it to Walter Reed, Scotty couldn't walk and was nearly comatose from pain medication. Vacuums constantly cleaned his wounds.

"I was glad he was alive, but it was hard to see him that way," Corey said.

And yet it seemed like every day the brothers were together, Scotty gained a bit of strength and healing. Less than two weeks later he started walking.

Corey dedicated last season and this one to him. He writes the words "For Him" on his cleats before each game.

Somehow, Scotty recovered enough to attend a couple of Ohio's games last year to watch Corey play.

"He definitely motivates me a lot to prove to him I can do this. I can't let him down," Corey said. "Going through what he's going through, reacting to it the way he does . . . It really shows me that through adversity, you have to push through.

"It really helps me. In a game, we might let an opponent score, but you can't get down on yourself"

Now, his last season is nearly upon him.

He still tears up every time he tells his brother's story, knowing it's changed his life while still trying to make sense of it.

How football, in a way, seems so shallow now.

And yet how it also means more than it ever could.

MAC preview: Under Solich, Bobcats trade 'cellar dwellers' for 'champs'

Mark Znidar

Columbus Dispatch - Aug. 29, 2012

ATHENS, Ohio — By Christmas break in 2004, Ohio University football had bottomed out. • Then-athletic director Thomas Boeh had fired coach Brian Knorr, who won 11 games in four seasons, and the Bobcats' talent pool was the weakest in the Mid-American Conference. • The national coaching search that would ensue began and ended with one name: Frank Solich.

Somehow, Boeh coaxed the former Nebraska coach back into the game after a one-year hiatus to lead a program whose reputation rivaled that of the Bad News Bears.

Solich once vowed that he would never coach at a university that wasn't near a major city or airport. The OU offer changed his mind.

"I took the job because I thought we could win," he said.

Eight years later, as a new season begins, the Bobcats are coming off their third East Division championship since 2006 and first bowl victory ever. They are also a popular pick by coaches and the media to win the MAC championship.

"What we've been able to do is a real tribute to our football players and players of the past," Solich said. "We've come from not being recognized to being picked to win the conference. It's a tribute to our coaching staff."

The health of the program will show at the gate: Season-ticket sales are up 92 percent, including a 72 percent jump in the high-priced tower seats of Peden Stadium.

The excitement surrounding OU football begins with redshirt-junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton and builds from there.

The Bobcats have three returning starters on the offensive line, athletic tight end Jordan Thompson, stout running backs Beau Blankenship and Ryan Boykin, an angry defensive line and rangy defensive backs Travis Carrie and Gerald Moore.

Tettleton, the unquestioned team leader, said the 24-23 win over Utah State in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl buoyed players during winter conditioning.

Still, it couldn't erase the sting of the team's MAC championship loss preceding the bowl appearance: Leading at halftime 20-0, the Bobcats fell 23-20 to Northern Illinois.

"We didn't get it done in the MAC," Tettleton said. "That's good motivation. We want to get back to Detroit and win that thing."

Which explains the Bobcats' theme for the season: "Unfinished business."

"We have a lot of confidence because the guys coach Solich brings in are good citizens on and off the field," Tettleton said. "I think we do things the right way. We have that chemistry."

Parts of that chemistry hail from as far away as Oklahoma: Tettleton and

Blankenship are from Norman, and receiver Donte Foster from Guthrie.

"It's crazy we all ended up in Ohio," Blankenship said. "I transferred here from Iowa State. I knew Tyler was here."

Foster, who caught 30 passes last season, signed with Ohio partly because he knew about Tettleton's success in high school.

"It was just a great opportunity," he said. "We felt we could work well together. I really didn't know where the university was, to tell you the truth. But I knew the team was a winner."

Winning is precisely what the Bobcats, who finished 10-4 last season, want to keep doing.

"Coach Solich preaches playing hard, physical football and having respect for the game," Foster said. "It was that simple."

"We want to be hard-nosed."



Bobcat quartet eager for trip home

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Aug. 31, 2012

Without a doubt, when the Bobcats square off against Penn State on Saturday inside Beaver Stadium they'll be doing so in decidedly hostile territory.

But for nearly a fifth of Ohio's starting lineup, it won't be an intimidating atmosphere. In fact, for them, it'll be a happy return home.

Four Bobcat starters grew up in the hilly region surrounding State College in central Pennsylvania. Defensive tackle Neal Huynh, outside linebacker Alphonso Lewis, and wide receiver Tyler Futrell played in high school in Altoona, Pa. Offensive tackle Ryan McGrath calls Duncansville, Pa. — also in the vicinity — home. All four will be in Ohio's starting lineup on Saturday.

"That was a huge hit for us," said Ohio head coach Frank Solich. "It's nice to go 4-for-4 on guys all from the same area."

Growing up in the region, all four players are familiar with Penn State and what that program means to the local populace. Getting to play the Nittany Lions won't just mean a chance for friends and family to come see them in action, it will also give them a chance to play on the field where some of their early football memories were made.

"It's an opportunity of a lifetime for me," said Futrell, who came to Ohio as a cornerback and now will make his first start as a wide receiver. "Around here (Ohio) a lot of people are Ohio State fans, and that's what it's like back in Altoona."

"Now, we're playing against them. It's a totally different state of mind. Now, they're the enemy," he added. "It's kind of surreal at this point."

Some friends may be cheering for the individual Bobcat players, but hoping for a Penn State victory. Such is the dilemma for the home town folks when high school stars came back playing for the visiting teams.

"I'm going to have a lot of guys, who went to Penn State for their college education, there," explained Lewis. "It's going to be some mixed emotions for them. They're not going to know who to be cheering for."

Growing up, not all of the four Bobcats were admitted PSU fans. Lewis and McGrath both said they were more partial to West Virginia. All said they admired and respected the Nittany Lions' program, but family ties dictated a different allegiance as youngsters.

"No, I wasn't. My dad played at West Virginia and my uncle played at Pitt," McGrath said. "I respect their program and all that, but we never really cared for Penn State much, honestly."

Besides a homecoming, the game offers a chance for the Pennsylvania transplants to catch up with former high school rivals. PSU receiver Alex Kinney will be one that Lewis expects to talk to, on the field.

"Alex plays the slot so I might be out there on him and we'll be jawing at it back and forth," he said, laughing.

While it may be a big game for the four players, personally, they all said it was just one of 12 this season for the Bobcats. A win or loss on Saturday won't change their ultimate goal — a Mid-American Conference cham-

pionship.

"It's a big game for a lot of reasons, including just from being the first contest of the year," Huynh said. "Getting out there for real, getting everything going on both sides of the ball. We're all excited to get out there and play."

"I think we're approaching it the same way as any other game though," he added. "We're not putting any extra emphasis on it."

Solich finds his niche with Ohio University

Mark Dent

Pittsburgh Post Gazette - Sept. 1, 2012

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. -- This is supposed to be Ohio's year, the season when it all comes together. The Bobcats have a star quarterback, an offensive line that could have three all-conference players and a potent, balanced defense.

They have coach Frank Solich, too. He just signed a five-year contract extension Thursday. Job security.

In eight years, Solich has turned a forgettable team that had never won a bowl game before his tenure into a relatively chic pick to go undefeated this season (that would mean a victory today against Penn State). He has made the world acknowledge him for reasons other than his controversial firing at Nebraska.

"It's been a great place for me," Solich said in a phone conversation. "You know, I'm going to feel pretty good about myself as a coach if I get to where this is operating at a level I want to operate at."

Read more: <http://www.post-gazette.com/stories/sports/psu/solich-finds-his-niche-with-ohio-university-651447/#ixzz25ZSrJFAM>

In November 2003, Solich was fired from Nebraska after finishing the regular season 9-3. He had coached in the national championship game two years earlier.

Nebraska athletic director Steve Pederson, who is now at Pitt, replaced Solich with Bill Callahan, who was 27-22 and had a losing record in the Big 12. He might be better known for directing a gesture some interpreted as a throat slash toward a referee than for winning any games.

Of course, Solich's departure was rough. He was a Nebraska man. He was an assistant for 25 years after playing there in the 1960s. Sports Illustrated featured him on the cover in a white jersey in 1965.

He spent the year after his dismissal visiting other programs. Solich wanted to gain an understanding of the game outside Nebraska. In December 2004, an offer came from Ohio.

Solich knew Ohio University, kind of. After spending his first few years in Pennsylvania, he grew up in Cleveland. He was a star football player at Holy Name High School. He didn't even think about Ohio U.

Aside from 1968, when Ohio was undefeated until a Tangerine Bowl loss, it had operated in anonymity. It was just what Solich wanted.

"Getting back to Ohio, there wasn't a major school there," Solich said. "But I was OK with it. I was also OK with taking over a program that wasn't successful."

In 2006, his second season, Ohio won nine games, the most it had won since 1968. He has an overall record of 50-40 with the Bobcats.

This year, Ohio returns its starting quarterback, Tyler Tettleton, who threw for 3,302 yards and rushed for 916 yards last year, three of its best offensive linemen, an experienced secondary and defensive line and one of the Mid-American Conference's best kickers in Matt Weller. SI.com has predicted an undefeated season.

Penn State coach Bill O'Brien called the Bobcats "an excellent football team."

Ohio has done almost everything to reverse its forgettable past in Solich's tenure. It won 10 games last season, won its first bowl game, has won its MAC division, has refurbished facilities and has an indoor practice facility on the way.

But Ohio has not defeated a BCS-conference school since 2005, Solich's first year, when Ohio beat Pitt. Since, it has lost games to Rutgers, Ohio State, Tennessee, Connecticut, Northwestern, Virginia Tech and Missouri.

A victory against Penn State would set Ohio on the course for a historic season, and if you want to get really crazy, talk of a BCS game down the road. Such accom-

plishments would help buttress Solich's reputation further, not that he is interested in the praise.

"I've always believed in myself as a coach," he said. "It doesn't bother me to be viewed in any certain way. I know I'm a good coach, and that's all that matters to me."

Read more: <http://www.post-gazette.com/stories/sports/psu/solich-finds-his-niche-with-ohio-university-651447/#ixzz25ZTFw9GL>



The Athens Messenger

Ohio, PSU kick off season

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 1, 2012

The Nittany Lions have spent the last 10 months listening to critics nationwide rip their program, their institution and their fan base.

The Bobcats have spent the last 40 years dealing with the fact they were an afterthought in the world of Division I college football.

A new era begins today for one of the two programs inside cavernous Beaver Stadium. Ohio University will try to spring the upset and jumpstart a possible run to an undefeated season and an elusive Mid-American Conference championship. Penn State wants to usher in new coach Bill O'Brien with an easy win and prove to the world that, despite the most turbulent off-season in college football history, the Nittany Lions aren't about to be ignored.

The Lions will be playing for the first time in more than 40 years without Joe Paterno on the sideline. Once the winningest coach in Division I history, Paterno was fired in November when the Jerry Sandusky child abuse scandal broke and died less than three months later.

The Freeh Report followed, which damned the Penn State administration for not doing enough to stop Sandusky. The NCAA levied heavy sanctions on the program in late July, including a four-year ban on postseason games and scholarship reductions. Since then, 11 players have — with the NCAA's blessing — transferred.

O'Brien, since his hire early in 2012, has tried to direct attention to the future. For instance, for the first time Penn State will take to the field with names on the back of their jerseys.

The Lions get a chance to exorcise that off-season full of dismay, disappointment and horror today in front of more than 100,000 white-clad fans.

"It's basically a new era of Penn State football," said O'Brien, the former New England Patriots offensive coordinator who is a head coach for the first time.

"There is a lot of this that is about a lot more than football. But (today) is about football," he continued. "What is a big deal now is how we play."

The Bobcats know the emotional outburst they'll be facing. Ohio head coach Frank Solich addressed that issue in July and despite the perception PSU will be undermanned, he believes his team is still facing a big challenge.

"The guys who stay, you know they're going to be committed. That team will be one which is united, which will do whatever it takes," Solich said. "They're still going to be a tremendously talented football team, and they will be one that is on a mission."

The Bobcats, too, have big goals in mind beside the \$850,000 they'll receive for playing in State College. Coming off a 10-4 season with a roster that returns 14 starters, Ohio has been a sexy pick in the preseason to possibly break into the Bowl Championship Series conversation.

With a schedule full of winnable games after the opener, it's not a gigantic stretch to see the Bobcats put together the best season in the program's history. "I think we're looking at it as a chance to gain some respect. A lot of people say 'Oh, they're from the MAC, they're not worth anything.' But this is Ohio and we think we have a pretty good program," Ohio senior tight end Jordan Thompson said. "The tradition has been built over the course of several years and we always say take the program to the next level and this is a chance to do that."

"And what better way to do that than in front of the whole country tuned in to watch the game?"

On the field, the Bobcats have a shot to do just that. Tested by big-time road games throughout Solich's tenure, Ohio won't be awed by the huge crowd, ESPN cameras, or the pedigree of O'Brien's coaching tree or the resumes of the PSU players.

Ohio's lineup is heavy with fourth- and fifth-year players, and the quarterback — junior Tyler Tettleton — has given the 'Cats a belief they can win any game. Tettleton is back after a sensational sophomore season when he set 12 Ohio quarterback records and threw more than 3,000 yards and accounted for 38 touchdowns.

"Anytime you're playing a team like this it's huge for us as a university and a program. We're just excited to go out there and play a really good Big Ten and BCS opponent," he said.

PSU's strength is its defensive front seven, and the Lions were one of the better teams in the nation in giving up just 16.8 ppg. The question is can Ohio handle that front line well enough to expose a PSU secondary that is young and inexperienced?

"We're going to do what we do. We just can't shoot ourselves in the foot," said Ohio offensive coordinator Tim Albin. "We're going to have to pick and choose our spots. It's important that we make some plays when we're matched up one-on-one."

The other match up is a bit of a mystery. O'Brien is bringing a completely new offensive philosophy, and has been stingy about giving away any hints about what the Lions might do.

But he can't hide the fact that PSU was near the bottom of the country last season with 177 passing yards and 19.3 points per game. And that was before the team's best rusher, receiver and top kicker all left this summer.

Ohio doesn't have a lot of firm information about how to scheme the Lions, but will do its best to control the ground game and force former walk-on quarterback Matt McGloin to beat them through the air.

"Usually we go into ballgames making sure that we try to stop the run. I don't see this as being any different," Solich said. "They're talking about throwing the ball a lot this year but it's clear that they can put together a very good running game, and if they do that against us then they have everything going."

The x-factor is can Ohio handle what should be a rabid environment and take the Lions' first, emotionally-charged punch?

"I've told the guys we have to feed off that energy," said Ohio senior safety Gerald Moore. "It's not our crowd, but something in you has to fight back. You have to feed off that energy and make it your own."

If the Bobcats can do that, they have the savvy and experience to make it a four-quarter ballgame. And then it will anybody's game to win.

And if that's the case, Ohio might be, could be, the team leaving the field with a new era in tow.

Bobcat bits — Ohio will don green helmets for the first time during the Solich era, and will don helmet decals that mirror the ones Penn State will use this season to raise awareness about child abuse. ...Ohio is 0-7 in its last seven matchups against teams from BCS conference, with the last win coming at Illinois (20-17) in 2006. ...The Bobcats are 2-11 against BCS teams in Solich's seven years at the helm. The program is 6-37-1 all-time against teams in the Big Ten. ...Penn State leads the all-time series 5-0, but the two teams haven't played since 1974. ...The 'Cats are 4-3 in season openers under Solich, but just 1-3 vs. Division I (FBS) teams in openers. ...Penn State is 100-13 all-time in season openers.



The Athens Messenger

Ohio stuns Penn State, 24-14

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 1, 2012

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — For Penn State, the day was supposed to be about a return to normalcy, a return to football — where the Nittany Lions have always been able to find solace.

It was supposed to be a celebration for Penn State and its beleaguered football program.

Instead, Tyler Tettleton and the Bobcats crashed the party.

Guided by the terrific Tettleton, Ohio upset and dominated the Nittany Lions 24-14 Saturday afternoon in front of 97,186 inside Beaver Stadium.

Tettleton hit on 31 of 41 passes for 324 yards and two touchdowns, and added 47 rushing yards for another score, as Ohio (1-0) posted the biggest win of the Frank Solich era — and perhaps in Bobcats' history.

"This is truly one of the most exciting moments in Ohio Football history," said Ohio President Roderick McDavis, who was high-fiving players on the field and then gave one his patented locker room speeches afterward. "To come into this stadium, on this day, and win just speaks volumes about how far we've come."

Penn State (0-1), and its fervent fan base were desperate for something to cheer about after an off-season marred with scandal, the death of the iconic Joe Paterno, and draconian NCAA sanctions.

And for a while the Lions roared. Head coach Bill O'Brien's pass-heavy offense racked up yards early, and PSU took a 14-3 lead into halftime after a blocked punt set up Matt McGloin's 14-yard touchdown pass to Matt Lehman.

But the Bobcats were just getting warmed up. Ohio dominated play after the first quarter; after the emotional lift left the Lions so did their advantage. PSU out gained Ohio 173 yards to 52 in the first quarter. After that, the Bobcats racked up 447 total yards to the Lions' 189 over the final three quarters.

"We played with heart and intensity, and just put it all on the line," said Ohio wide receiver Donte Foster, whose 5-yard touchdown catch from Tettleton put the game out of reach with 2:55 remaining. "After we made some adjustments, we came back and started to put the licking on them."

The win snapped a seven-game losing streak for Ohio against Bowl Championship Series (BCS) teams, and gave the 'Cats their first win over such a program since 2006. Ohio had never before beaten Penn State, and the Lions dropped their season opener for the first time since 2001.

"This is an awesome feeling. We've been building this thing year by year, a little bit at a time. You want to keep moving things forward," said Ohio tight end Jordan Thompson. "We definitely did that today."

Down 14-3 at the break, Ohio caught a break to get back into it. Tettleton forced a throw in the early third quarter, back to the middle of the field, and it was deflected. Ohio flanker Landon Smith snagged the carom, then wove his way to the end zone to cap the 43-yard scoring play that cut the deficit to 14-10.

Penn State, sensing the game was slipping away, went for it on fourth down from the Ohio 30-yard line on the next series. But McGloin's throw was off the mark, and the Bobcats responded by quickly grabbing the lead.

On the ensuing drive, Tettleton dropped in a perfect ball down the right sideline to Ryan Clark for a 33-yard pickup on third-and-two. Four plays later, Tettleton dove in from the one and the Bobcats had a 17-14 lead.

"He was a part of a lot of big plays. He kept a lot of drives going," Solich said of his quarterback.

And as the game went on so too did running back Beau Blankenship and Ohio's

offensive line. The Bobcats' next drive ended with a missed Matt Weller field goal attempt, but Ohio still led 17-14 when it got the ball back on its own 7 with 9:37 remaining.

Ohio methodically worked the ball down the field and capped the 93-yard, 14-play series when Tettleton fired the 5-yard TD toss to Foster in the end zone.

At that point, most of the Penn State faithful headed for the exits.

"In our minds, I don't think it was," Blankenship said when asked if he thought the game was an upset. "We go into every game thinking we're going to win."

"We always go in with that chip on our shoulder wanting to get the victory and thinking we can."

Blankenship finished with 109 yards on 31 carries, and added seven receptions for 72 yards. Foster finished with five catches for 32 yards.

McGloin finished 27 of 48 with a late interception and 260 yards for Penn State. The Lions rushed for just 92 yards, and had three turnovers to none for the Bobcats.

"They were the better team today," O'Brien said.

It didn't start that way.

Ohio spent the first half trying to come to grips with PSU's new offense, which included 26 throws in the first two quarters. Playing soft on the corners, the Bobcats saw McGloin hit on 16 of 26 in the first half for 178 yards and two touchdowns.

The Lions threw it seven times alone on its first drive, which included a fourth-down conversion at midfield. But Ohio stopped the possession with Keith Moore's fumble recovery on the Ohio 21-yard line.

The Lions kept slinging it, and broke a scoreless tie with 3.1 seconds left in the first quarter. On first down, McGloin slid away from some pressure and dumped it off to Bill Belton. Belton plowed over the front right pylon for a 6-yard touchdown reception and the Lions led 7-0.

Ohio had an early drive stall at the PSU 36, and elected to punt. The Bobcats next series resulted in another punt, but Alphonso Lewis recovered the fumble punt catch by PSU linebacker Gerald Hodges on the PSU 13-yard line. Four plays later, kicker Matt Weller put Ohio on the board with a 22-yard field goal.

Weller, however, missed 44-yard attempt later in the second quarter, and another special teams mistake really put the Bobcats up against it. With time running down in the first half, Ohio punter Grant Venham had his punt blocked by Nyeem Wartman. Three plays later, after starting at the Ohio 18, McGloin hit Matt Lehman for a 14-yard touchdown pass and the Lions took a 14-3 lead into the halftime break.

But the Bobcats kept battling. Eventually the scoreboard showed what they believed at the onset; Ohio was the better team.

"It's amazing to come in here with a Big Ten, BCS opponent like them. It's fairly surreal," Tettleton said. "It hasn't really hit yet that we did that."

Ohio will take the field for its home opener on Saturday, when New Mexico State comes to Peden Stadium for a 7 p.m. kickoff.



That'll do Tett, that'll do

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 1, 2012

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — There was a lot to admire about the Bobcats' 24-14 win over the Nittany Lions on Saturday.

Ohio played with guts to storm back from a 14-3 deficit with 21 unanswered second-half points.

The 'Cats showed fortitude and intelligence to weather PSU's blitz of varied offensive formations and schemes early on, and ended up doing a good job of keeping the Lions stuck between the 20s.

And Frank Solich's even-keeled, confident leadership kept the team on task throughout despite more than 96,000 fans — the vast majority of which viewed the Bobcats as a diversion from the real story of the day.

The biggest thing to like if you're an Ohio fan? If you watched the game, you already know.

Junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton did something many better-known, more highly-regarded quarterbacks never did. He went to Happy Valley and turned a snarling, big, athletic defense into an ineffective unit which appeared incapable of throwing him off stride.

Ohio had good wide receivers last season. On Saturday, Tettleton showed that last year's super productive offensive season wasn't entirely the result of who was catching the ball.

Just look at the numbers. Tettleton hit 31 of 41 passes, over 70 percent, for 324 yards and two touchdowns. He took just one sack, for a loss of one yard, but also had nine carries for 47 yards and another score.

Tettleton shifted seamlessly from running the zone read with bowling-ball back Beau Blankenship, to putting the ball where it had to be on a critical third-down throw.

In the second half — with the game on the line — Tettleton was at his best as he completed 16 of 19 passes for 207 yards and both scores. Reworked PSU secondary or not, that's three incompletions against conceivably one of the best defenses in the Big Ten.

"Baller. The guy is just a straight up baller," said Ohio fifth-year senior tight end Jordan Thompson.

Tettleton dropped in a perfect deep ball to Ryan Clark along the right sideline for a 33-yard gain. His swing passes to Blankenship were on target and gave his back a chance to move upfield.

His best throw was his last one. Facing a critical third-and-goal from the PSU 5-yard line with just a three-point lead, Tettleton hung in the pocket, then lofted a throw to the left corner of the end zone. He was immediately drilled by a rushing defensive line-

man.

Wideout Donte Foster tracked down the ball right where he knew it would be.

"We ran that play a million times in practice," Foster said. "I knew he was going to put it right there at the back pylon like we're always saying. He took a hit, but I think he felt the touchdown more than that hit.

"I really wouldn't want anyone else as my quarterback," he continued. "He's a smart player. He takes hits, he gets up and makes another play."

It was such a good day that his worst decision of the second half still resulted in a touchdown. Tettleton threw late, back toward the middle of the field, early in the third quarter. After a deflection, Landon Smith hauled in the ball and scored on a 43-yard pass play.

Questioned about that good luck afterward, head coach Frank Solich wasn't about to apologize for it.

"That was a key, but you know what I thought was the real key? Us being able to go on a 93-yard drive, 17 plays," he said.

That drive, in the fourth quarter, clinched it. Tettleton was 5-for-5 on the drive as frustrated PSU defenders couldn't get to him, or in the way of his passes.

And afterward, after Ohio had clinched the biggest win in perhaps program history and certainly the biggest regular-season win under Solich, Tettleton needed all of five minutes to mention New Mexico State — the next opponent on the Ohio schedule.

"It's just one game. We have to take them one at a time and that's what we'll do," he said.

Solich didn't need convincing he had the right guy running the show before the game. Now, the rest of the country shouldn't either.

"He's probably opened some eyes around the country," Solich said. "It just shows what kind of player he is, what kind of personality he's got, the demeanor he has. It just all adds up.

"We got the right guy."

You shouldn't find anyone in State College willing to disagree with that.

Penn State brought back to reality

Zac Jackson

Fox Sports Ohio - Sept. 1, 2012

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. - No one thought it would be easy, the journey or any aspect of the emotional first step of it, but there was supposed to be enough energy and enthusiasm to carry the home team through and start a new era of Penn State football on a high note.

Instead, Saturday brought harsh reality. Penn State lost its season opener to Ohio University, 24-14, after leading 14-3 at halftime.

This is the start of a new era during which Penn State will lose a lot of football games.

New Penn State coach Bill O'Brien might be the right man for the job, and he's done and said a lot of the right things in helping his players and the university move forward in the wake of an unprecedented scandal and subsequent NCAA sanctions that forever changed the university and the football program. Right now, though, O'Brien has a job that not many envy. And further losses won't make it any easier.

This counts as an upset only because a Mid-American Conference school with no real football tradition beat a Big Ten school with plenty of it. The Bobcats are experienced and gritty, and they didn't let a horrendous first-half performance weigh them down. Penn State was sloppy, missed opportunities to extend its early lead and momentum and held no discernible edge in personnel.

To sum it up, Ohio running back Beau Blankenship -- all 5 feet 8 of him -- had grass stains on the front of his jersey, not on the back, after racking up 181 yards of offense.

"I think our (offensive) line took control as the game wore on," Ohio coach Frank Solich said. "We wore them down a little bit."

That's the MAC team beating up the Big Ten team, not the other way around.

It's going to be a long year for Penn State. And a long few years -- maybe a long decade.

The Nittany Lions will have 20 scholarships cut, to a limit of 65, from 2014 to 2017. They'll be able to sign no more than 15 recruits per year beginning next February and for the next three years. Eleven players of varying talent and experience levels left the program this summer after the NCAA sanctions said they could transfer without penalty and barred Penn State from postseason play for four years.

Running back Silas Redd and wide receiver Justin Brown were due to play Saturday night for USC and Oklahoma, respectively. Both of those players would have been Penn State's returning statistical leaders at their respective positions. Both could play big roles for their new teams. Their current team certainly missed them Saturday.

"We have to do better," O'Brien said. "We have to coach better. It starts with me."

The better quarterback played for the visiting team Saturday, too, and in the second half Ohio's Tyler Tettleton was both the luckiest and best player on the field.

Tettleton's first touchdown pass of the season came on what he called a "horrible throw," one thrown to where one of two Penn State players probably should have intercepted it in the middle of the field. It instead bounced into the air, into the hands of Landon Smith, and went in the books as a 43-yard touchdown.

O'Brien had to feel as sick then as he did a few minutes later when Penn State starting cornerback Stephon Morris was carted off with an apparent ankle injury. To O'Brien's credit, he's made no excuses and tried to remain positive. He's got a heck of a job ahead.

"Ohio is a very, very good football team," O'Brien said. "A veteran team coached by an excellent head coach. They beat us. They were the better team today."

Tettleton engineered a 14-play, 93-yard scoring drive the next time the Bobcats had the ball, making it 17-14 when he capped it with 1-yard run. He threw a pinpoint fade to Donte Foster in the corner of the end zone for the clincher with 2:55 left.

The announced crowd was 97,186, but it was pretty silent for the final 20 minutes. Penn State seemed to thrive early on emotion involved with a new start and the chance to move forward, but that wore off. The pregame ceremonies included a moment of silence for victims of the sex abuse scandal, and the Nittany Lions' entrance included 200 former lettermen and more than 600 Penn State athletes being on the field to greet the team.

A T-shirt seen on dozens of fans inside Beaver Stadium read, "Those Who Stayed May Not Be Champions, But They Will Forever Be Legends." Earlier this week, Penn State senior fullback Michael Zordich said the build-up to this game would include "the most emotional run out of the tunnel in college football history."

At the end, the Nittany Lions made the first of many long walks back to the locker room.

"We talked about the emotion of it," Solich said. "We knew we were going to have to take on a surge -- a surge that would come from the fans, from the players, the atmosphere. We knew it would be a difficult atmosphere to play in."

"I just wanted our guys to try to turn it into to just a football game, and we're pretty good at playing football."

Penn State threatened only once in the second half, getting stopped on downs at the Ohio 30. Nittany Lions quarterback Matt McGloin threw a pair of touchdown passes in the first half but struggled in the second, when he went 11-of-22 for 82 yards and an interception.

Over the last two years, McGloin has been a 54-percent passer, averaging 7 yards per attempt. He might be better this year, and O'Brien's system might be better for him, but he and his receivers couldn't make enough plays in the second half Saturday to sustain Penn State's hot start.

The new era started with O'Brien choosing to go for it on fourth-and-one -- and going with McGloin in a shotgun for that play. Penn State converted that, scored first late in the first quarter and went up 14-3 after blocking a punt deep in Ohio territory late in the first half.

By the final minutes, though, Blankenship was consistently getting into the second level of the defense, Tettleton found a way to throw for 324 yards and McGloin's body language offered the remaining fans little hope of a miracle comeback. Ohio got the bounces, the breaks and a win that gives its program some rare national spotlight.

The Ohio Bobcats are movin' on up the college football ranks. Penn State is in for some tough times, and that's going to take some getting used to.

The New York Times

When a Coach Called a Shift

Tim Rohan

New York Times - Sept. 2, 2012

Frank Solich's faith in the option offense had been forged and confirmed over an almost three-decade association with Nebraska. Solich played fullback there under Bob Devaney. He coached under Tom Osborne, winning three national championships with the same reliable, grinding attack. When he replaced Osborne, the option helped him win 49 games in his first five seasons, more than either Devaney or Osborne over a similar stretch.

In 2003, after his sixth season, one in which Nebraska went 9-3 in the regular season, he was fired, marking perhaps the first time his faith in the option was shaken. Still, two seasons later, he introduced the option to Ohio University, where the Bobcats were often ignored, a stigma perhaps worse than mediocrity.

"I felt like that if I did build this, and felt comfortable with it when I got done building it, then I'd feel pretty good about my coaching career," said Solich, who guided Ohio to a 24-14 victory over Penn State on Saturday. It could catapult the Bobcats for the rest of what is considered a winnable schedule.

Ohio won nine games in Solich's second season and went to the GMAC Bowl, the program's first bowl appearance since 1968. By Solich's sixth season, Ohio was playing in a second straight bowl, but it still felt foreign to Solich when his team was trailing Troy, 38-7, at halftime of the 2010 New Orleans Bowl. His defense could not keep up with Troy's spread offense in what became a 48-21 loss.

"That was one of the hardest losses for me to take, by the fact that we were virtually out of it at halftime," Solich said. He added, "I wasn't used to those kinds of games."

Selfless and smart, Solich sent his top offensive assistants, the coordinator Tim Albin and the quarterbacks coach Gerry Gdowski, to Troy, Ala., where they spent three days gleaning ideas, plays and formations. Like the rest of the football landscape, the Mid-American Conference had shifted; that season, there were six 1,000-yard receivers and just two 1,000-yard rushers.

The season before, Solich sent assistants to learn Nevada's pistol offense, which had averaged 38 points. Now Solich envisioned using the pistol and the spread, scrapping the fullback dive for the zone-read run.

"For my whole career, there was a quarterback under center; now there wasn't," Solich said. "My whole career, we huddled up. Now we weren't going to huddle? That was about as big a change for that you could think. But it wasn't hard to make that decision. Just seemed the right thing to do."

If the Bobcats were to keep up with teams like Penn State, Solich said, "you're probably not just going to pound it at those guys," but run around and throw over them.

So serious were his intentions, Solich installed the offense in one off-season, made possible by the familiarity that quarterback Tyler Tettleton and the team's stable of running backs, including Beau Blankenship, already had with it.

Tettleton, son of the former major league baseball player Mickey Tettleton, and Blankenship became best friends running the spread offense together in high school in Norman, Okla. They had been rivals in middle school, then Blankenship chose to join Tettleton in high school to run the zone-read.

Again, Blankenship followed Tettleton after their freshman seasons in college. Blankenship decided to leave Iowa State, and the first person he called was Tettleton, who sold him on Ohio. Yet neither had proved much when Solich decided on the spread.

For Ohio, it was a dream season: the Bobcats won 10 games, including their first bowl game. Tettleton threw for 3,302 yards, ran for 658, and accounted for 38 touchdowns. Three running backs each ran for more than 400 yards.

It got better Saturday. Blankenship ran over Penn State for 109 yards, and Tettleton threw over the Nittany Lions for 324. Leading by 17-14, on third down at the Penn State 5 in the fourth quarter, Solich let Tettleton call the play. The high-arching pass for a touchdown was never in doubt.

"He understands who we are," Albin said of Tettleton. "There's not a lot of guys in the country that you have that much trust in."



Ohio's breakthrough continues

Stewart Mandel

SI.com - Sept. 3, 2012

The 2012 season had just seen its first notable upset. A MAC team had just knocked off a traditional Big Ten power at its 100,000-seat stadium. And so of course, ESPN cut to ... Tom Rinaldi interviewing the losing coach.

Certainly, Penn State's first home game post-NCAA sanctions and first home opener in a half-century without Joe Paterno merited some unique and intensive media coverage. But there seemed to be little mention of the Nittany Lions' opponent Saturday, even after Ohio pulled out a 24-14 comeback win.

"Obviously there was huge story behind [the game]," Bobcats coach Frank Solich said Sunday. "That story got portrayed almost on a daily basis. But we also knew those that turned on the game, and those that attended it, weren't going to watch Penn State play themselves. They were going to watch Penn State play Ohio. It was a tremendous opportunity to show what we're all about."

Solich, who's been the head man in Athens since 2005 (now longer than his 1998-2003 Nebraska tenure), hopes the exposure from Saturday's victory marks the next step in his program's continued rise. The Bobcats reached their first MAC championship game in Solich's second season and returned again in 2009 and '11. Last season Ohio won 10 games for the first time since 1968 and notched the first bowl victory (over Utah State in the Idaho Potato Bowl) in school history.

Solich noted Sunday that the Bobcats' rally from a 23-10 deficit in that bowl game to a 24-23 victory very much paralleled Saturday's game in Happy Valley. Penn State, buoyed by the emotion of the day, outgained Ohio 173 yards to 52 in the first quarter, and took a 14-3 lead in the second. But Solich's team dominated the last three periods, notching 447 yards to Penn State's 173. Touted quarterback Tyler Tettleton was particularly poised and accurate, finishing 31-of-41 for 324 yards while rushing for 47 yard on nine carries.

"That's him," said Solich. "He's obviously the catalyst."

That may be, but Solich has been the key to Ohio's consistency. In a league where coaches routinely jump to a major conference at the first hint of success, Solich, 67, isn't going anywhere.

"I enjoy coaching so much it doesn't matter where I'm coaching," Solich said. "Obviously the financial rewards may be greater at one school over another, but I'm at the point in my career where I feel pretty comfortable with what I'm doing."

Read more: http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/2012/writers/stewart_mandel/09/02/week-1-panic-meter-oklahoma-florida/index.html#ixzz25ZGtLJkl



The kid went and did it

Peter King

SI.com - Sept. 3, 2012

Well, in the span of seven months, Ohio's beaten Michigan in basketball and Penn State in football. That's a little heady for my alma mater. Actually, it's a lot heady. I introduced you to the kid in the middle of the football headiness, quarterback Tyler Tettleton, last week, and I figured you'd want to hear his reaction after Ohio 24, Penn State 14, with Ohio churning out 499 yards of total offense and Tettleton a 31-of-41 afternoon.

Tettleton was, well, reserved Sunday afternoon, 24 hours after walking off the field in Unhappy Valley.

"It really didn't hit me 'til today, what we did," Tettleton said from his apartment in Athens. "I got back and watched the highlights on TV and said, 'Wow, we beat Penn State.'"

"The day, the whole scene, was great. When we got to the stadium, you could just feel how they were ready to move on and start a new era. They were so into it. So spirited. They were some of the best fans, all of them. In the pregame, I felt the emotion, but once the game started, all of that went out the window. It was another game. You're just playing."

Down 14-3 in the third quarter, the 6-foot Tettleton had OU at the Penn State 43. Third and seven. He threw a ball off his back foot, slightly behind wideout Landon Smith. As soon as the ball left his hand, Tettleton wanted to slap himself. He said he thought, Oh crap. Why'd I do that?

"Probably one of the dumbest throws I've made in a while," he said.

The ball ricocheted off a Penn State defender's hands, into Smith's, and Smith ran for a 43-yard touchdown. "You saved me!" Tettleton told Smith.

More Tettleton: "After the game I kind of thought I might be all emotional, but I wasn't. I saw my mom, and she hugged me. She was in tears. She knew this was what I wanted, the chance to play in games like this. Then we got on the bus. It was five and a half hours back to campus."

Tettleton and his mates were the toasts of Court Street, the main street in Athens where the team went to be patted on the back around 11 Saturday night. Rumor has it the students had had a few beers before the team arrived.

"What's the weirdest sight you saw on Court Street?" I asked.

He thought a few seconds. "The weirdest thing ... well, I'd say seeing people wearing my jersey. I mean, I can't get used to that. It's crazy. I don't like the spotlight much. I'm just glad we were able to do this for the university. I'm blessed to be here. I always think of the programs that passed on me because they didn't think I could

do it. These coaches took a shot on me."

Tettleton sounded like an NFL quarterback, the more he talked. "Penn State's over," he said. "Now it's time to focus on New Mexico State."

Bobcats racking up wins, respect

Zac Jackson

Fox Sports Ohio - Sept. 4 2012

The thought that the isolated, rolling hills of Southeast Ohio would and could never be home to a major college football program successful enough to consistently play in bowl games and earn national attention wasn't lost on Frank Solich.

In fact, when Solich accepted the head coaching position at Ohio University in Dec. 2004, he broke at least a couple self-imposed rules he'd set when he spent nearly a year traveling and visiting some of the country's top programs while weighing his options and waiting on his next opportunity to coach.

"A lot of things worried me," Solich says now, now that he's able to smile about them. "First of all, I told myself I'd never take a job that didn't have a heavy population base right next to the school. I'd never take a job that didn't have a major airport right next to the school."

After 25 years coaching at Nebraska and six as head coach during which he won at a 75-percent rate, Solich was dismissed following the 2003 season. He spent the 2004 season visiting old friends and rivals at places like Texas, USC, Wisconsin and Oklahoma, and by the end of that season, the job at Ohio University -- the polar football opposite of those places he'd visited -- was available.

The Bobcats won all of 11 games from 2001-04, but Solich saw an opportunity. Logic be damned.

"I took the job anyway," Solich said.

Last week, Solich signed an extension through 2017. Last week-end, the Cleveland, Ohio native's eighth season in Athens started with what's probably the program's signature win, a 24-14 victory at Penn State. The Bobcats were the unanimous pick of preseason poll voters to win the Mid-American Conference's East Division for the third time in four years. There's just one more 2011 bowl team on the 2012 bowl schedule, lending plenty of ammo to the thought that a team that returned 15 starters from last year's 10-win team can surpass that total this season.

There used to be a definite ceiling on Ohio football, not to mention a constant struggle for any type of large-scale attention. Now, there's a realistic possibility this year's Bobcats can win as many games as any team in the country.

"People around the country are familiar with Ohio football," Solich said. "They know Ohio football exists. There was a point in time I don't think that was the case. We mark that as progress.

"There was probably a time people made a little check mark on

the schedule next to Ohio like it was an automatic win. I don't think people necessarily want to schedule us anymore."

The blueprint Solich has followed started with recruiting good players who are also good people, and it's continued with a bunch of other coaching cliches about work ethic and consistency. Finding a franchise-type quarterback is usually how teams take significant leaps, and the Bobcats found theirs in Tyler Tettleton, the son of former Major League Baseball player Mickey Tettleton, when he signed in 2009.

Solich half-jokingly said his goal is to run a "boring" program, one that focuses on small steps and always the next one. He said his experience has taught him to concentrate on keeping the highs from getting too high and the lows from getting too low. It's a humble program, too. Solich said a blowout loss to Troy in the 2010 New Orleans Bowl taught his coaching staff a lot about an up-tempo, no-huddle offense, and by the following fall the Bobcats were using it.

By now, Tettleton has practically mastered it.

"His talent fits any offense," Solich said. "It fits ours to a T."

Getting to the GMAC Bowl in 2007 marked the school's first bowl trip since 1968. Last year's comeback in win in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl marked the first bowl win ever. The win over Penn State was the first over a Big Ten school since 2006, and Tettleton's 324 passing yards in that game kept him on pace to break the school's passing yardage record later this fall, probably just past the midpoint of his junior year.

"That's what I came here for, honestly, to be a part of big wins and a team that plays on TV and gets national exposure," Tettleton said. "I believed it could happen. People know about us now."

Tettleton admits he wasn't quite sure what to think the first time he flew from his home in Norman, Okla., into Columbus with his parents and made the scenic, 80-mile drive from there to Athens. From a football standpoint, "I didn't really know who they were," Tettleton said.

But he knew of Solich. And when the winding drive eventually brought the Tettletons to civilization, he liked what he saw.

"It just comes out of nowhere," Tettleton said. "There's the stadium. There's the campus. And immediately...it felt like home."

After starting his college career at Iowa State, running back Beau

Blankenship transferred to join Tettleton, his high school teammate and close friend in the Ohio backfield. At Penn State last weekend, Blankenship ran for 109 yards and caught 72 yards worth of passes from Tettleton, who threw for three touchdowns.

The depth chart has players from Ohio, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Maryland, Virginia, Texas, New York, Florida, Alabama, Iowa and Pennsylvania. The Oklahoma and Nebraska players represent Solich's roots and connections in that part of the country. The rest are a hodgepodge of those who were previously overlooked, just generally believed -- or both.

Travis Carrie, an NFL prospect at cornerback who's out for the season with a knee injury suffered in preseason camp, came 2,500 miles to Athens from Concord (Ca.) De la Salle, one of the nation's most successful high school programs over the last two decades. Corey Hasting is a former walk-on from the Cincinnati area who's now a fifth-year senior starting on the defensive line alongside fellow seniors from Altoona, Pa., Arlington, Texas, and Ocala, Fla.

"We have a staff that really has contacts around the country," Solich said. "Our staff has pretty much stayed together, and people like that continuity. We have that going for us in recruiting. We have a tremendous school; an Ohio University education is recognized around the country. We have a walkable campus, a beautiful campus and it's full of good people.

"If you can't make a friend on our campus, you can't make a friend."

Said Blankenship: "My road here is different than most because I'm a transfer, but Coach Solich being the head coach, that's a name people recognize. And he's a coach any player in the country would want to play for. (Offensive coordinator Tim) Albin and all the other recruiters go in to places and just recruit. They believe in what they're selling. They see no reason they can't get any player, no matter where he's from or who else is recruiting him."

To grasp just how much the standards and expectations have changed, consider that the five-year record of 36-27 compiled by the just-departed 2011 seniors is the best in program history. That's the kind of record that would get coaches fired in lots of places -- like Nebraska -- but at Ohio University, it's reason for celebration and future excitement.

"I've only been involved in all my years of coaching with four schools, and two of those were high schools," Solich said. "Those two were building jobs. I had more fun coaching those jobs than I ever had. I felt like it was time for me to have some fun again.

"The fact it had to be built was not a detriment to me. I kind of embraced the thought of building the program."

He's still going. The win at Penn State made Solich's overall record at Ohio 51-40 and 28-14 since 2009. A new locker room and indoor practice facility are under construction, and the recruiting plan is clearly working. Seven players who played at Ohio under Solich were in NFL training camps this summer.

The school's switch from quarters to semesters ensures students

will be on campus for all of the team's home games, and overall season ticket sales are at a record high. A decade ago, most students couldn't be bothered to check out even a single football game. Now, a bunch of them wear Tettleton's No. 4 jersey around campus.

Because of the relatively soft schedule, even a 13-0 Ohio team would be the longest of longshots to play in a BCS bowl game. But 44 years after Ohio last won the MAC title at 10-1, the 2012 team has reason to believe it can match that accomplishment and pass both that team and last year's in the win column.

A ceiling on the program? That's now as imaginary as the major airport and major population base that border Athens, Ohio. The list of goals, Solich said, is still growing.

"There's so much more to come," Tettleton said. "There's so much more we can do."

Solich: Much work to do

Mark Znidar

Columbus Dispatch - Sept. 4, 2012

Ohio coach Frank Solich was a lot like a picky parent looking over a grade card as his team watched film of its 24-14 victory over Penn State last Saturday.

The Bobcats recovered from a 14-3 deficit in a raucous environment, but pats on the back lasted only hours after the game. They play New Mexico State at 7 p.m. Saturday in Peden Stadium.

"We didn't look at so much what we did well and got accomplished, but we looked at what we didn't accomplish," Solich said. "There's an awful lot to move forward with. I don't care how many players you have back, you have to establish a new identity each year. You have to find your personality. We have a ways to go to find our personality, but I like where we're at."

New Mexico State defeated Sacramento State 49-19 in its opener. In 2011, the Aggies were 4-9, including victories over Minnesota and Fresno State.

Under Solich, Ohio players enjoy big victories only so long before the focus shifts to the next game.

"It's clear to everybody in our program that sustaining continuity is how we approach every game," Solich said. "We can get beat in any game. You have to get ready for every game. We preach that all the time. (New Mexico State) scored 49 points in their last game. Who are we to think we can't go to work and play our best game?"

The odds were against the Bobcats, who were playing a Penn State team that thought it did not deserve four years of scholarship reductions and a bowl ban from the NCAA in the aftermath of the Jerry Sandusky child sex-abuse scandal. Sandusky last coached at the school in 1998.

Ohio coaches told the players they were going to State College, Pa., to win a game.

"We're always talking to our players about the belief that we will win," Solich said. "That is so important in the culture of your team. If you have that belief, then you work to get it done. It's about doing the right things on and off the field. We've got some really great competitors, and that can carry over to other guys on your team. It's kind of boring to hear and say, but we take it one game at a time."



Thompson leads determined group of tight ends

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 6, 2012

Day after day, practice after practice, Jordan Thompson remains a constant on the Ohio football practice football.

Sore knee, gimpy ankle, or as was the case in 2011 a surgically repaired shoulder, are all dealt with and then ignored when it's time to take the field. Besides the spring camp in 2011, when he was fresh off the surgery, you'd be hard-pressed to find anyone who can remember Thompson ever missing a practice that wasn't related to class.

"It really just comes down to taking care your body," said Thompson, a fifth-year senior, two-time team captain and four-year starter at tight end. "Every guy knows what's best for their body. If it takes a half-hour in the cold tub, or coming in when you have time off to get in the training room, you do it.

"You have be aware of what your body needs."

It's a practice that the entire position group is trying to follow. Junior Troy Hill blew his knee out early in the 2011 fall camp. Junior Tyler Knight has been dogged by knee issues since his arrival in Athens. Sophomore Derek Roback juggles back pain as part of his daily routine.

Everybody hurts, sometimes.

"As a group, we all have something," said Roback, the second tight end most of last season. "You have to keep pushing."

So far, so good in 2012. Hill was the opening day starter opposite of Thompson at Penn State. Both Roback and Knight got reps as well. The Bobcats are incorporating more two tight ends sets so far this season, and used that personnel grouping to finish off PSU last week with a 14-play drive late in the fourth quarter.

Hill pushed through his rehab a year ago. Not only was he cleared to start fall camp, but brought back a more muscular frame as well. He admitted he was devastated by the injury last fall.

"It's depressing. It feels like the whole world is crashing down on you," he said. "You're sitting around with your leg in a brace. Everyone else is getting ready for the season.

"It was just dedication, determination," Hill said. "I had the support of my teammates, my family. Everybody stayed on me so I could make a fast recovery and get back out here."

Ohio head coach Frank Solich said it's tough to dog your rehab, or practice habits, with Thompson on the squad. Whatever the ailment, Thompson finds a way to be physically ready. Thompson even somehow dodged the stomach virus that hit roughly half the roster early in fall camp.

"He's been truly amazing in that regard," Solich said.

In 2010, when Thompson couldn't lift his arm above his shoulder, his still ground out every day in practice. Solich said the tight end's tolerance for pain is as great as any player he's worked with.

"It's extremely high. It's up there with the tough, tough guys. It's hard to get him off the field," the coach said. "You need to have those kind of guys for not only their ability on the field but also their leadership."

Roback misses a day every now and then. His back issue is "fine" most days, but will continue to be a hindrance as long as he plays the sport.

He said having players in a similar situation — Thompson's shoulder and Hill's knee for instance — make it easier tackling his own. And having teammates willing to continue forging ahead helps in fighting off any bouts of self-pity.

"It really helps. When you have guys who have had pretty severe injuries...it really helps with the morale of the group when they're still doing the work, still doing whatever they have to do to keep going," Roback said.

And leading the way is Thompson, just as he's done the last four years. Hill said he's a great role model to follow.

"Good guy first of all and great mentor. He knows what he's talking about," Hill said. "I see what he does and make it my own."

Thompson said the group, though different in personality and background, have plenty of shared ties on the football field. And those ties help keep the group moving forward.

"We've all had our different trials. We're all working for the same thing, while fighting some of the same issues," he said. "We're in it together."



Bobcats ambush Aggies, 51-24

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 8, 2012

The Bobcats celebrated head coach Frank Solich's birthday in a big way.

Ohio enjoyed the support of a record-setting crowd, kicker Matt Weller became the program's all-time leading scorer and Beau Blankenship had a career night as the Bobcats throttled visiting New Mexico State, 51-24, Saturday night inside Peden Stadium.

The Bobcats (2-0) never trailed, but needed 24 unanswered points to blow open a close game in the third quarter to give Solich a satisfactory present on his 68th birthday.

"We didn't play perfect football, but we played good football," said Solich.

A Peden Stadium record crowd of 25,893 was on hand to watch the Bobcats, who were coming off a win at Penn State and are generating buzz as a possible threat to 'bust the BCS' this season with an undefeated campaign.

"All the students came out to support us, that was probably the largest student section we've ever had. It was great," said sophomore defensive back Nathan Carpenter. "Ever since we beat Penn State last week, everyone is coming together with us and getting on board with the team."

"We just have to keep things going for them and hopefully they keep coming around."

Ohio ran roughshod over visiting New Mexico State with 584 total yards, including 293 rushing yards.

Running back Blankenship had a career night with 27 carries for a career-high 168 yards and two touchdowns, and quarterback Tyler Tettleton threw for 257 yards and two more scores. Weller accounted for 15 points himself, with field goals of 37, 25 and 26 yards and six PAT kicks. With 303 career points, Weller now sits alone atop the Ohio record book.

"It's an honor to be able to be on this team for a fourth year now and be on such a great team with great guys," said Weller. "It's humbling."

Blankenship was the focal point of the offense much of the night, and for a second-straight week gave Ohio a dedicated workhorse to feed the ball to.

"He's done a lot of good things for us in two weeks," Solich said.

The Aggies (1-1) were game early, but faded in the second half as the Bobcats scored 24 straight in the third quarter to turn a 21-17 lead into a 45-17 mountain with 51 seconds left in the stanza. Quarterback Andrew Manley finished a pedestrian 12 of 24 for 132 yards with a touchdown and an interception. New Mexico State averaged just 2.4 yards per carry, and finished with only 70 rushing yards.

Ohio never trailed but did have some anxious moments. The Aggies answered each of Ohio's first two scores before Blankenship put the Bob-

cats ahead for good, at 21-14, with a 33-yard touchdown run with five minutes left in the first half.

Ohio had a chance to take a double-digit lead on a first half field goal, but the Aggies' Austin Franklin stuffed the attempt with a block. And the Bobcats first series after half ended with a quick three-and-out

The defense, which collected four sacks, came up with a stop early in the third and forced the Aggies to settle for a 38-yard field goal. After Tyler Stampfer made the kick to cut it to 21-17, the Bobcats never looked back.

Weller answered with a 37-yarder of his own to make it 24-17, then Blankenship's 5-yard run pushed the lead to 31-17.

Carpenter picked Manley on a short out route on the Aggies' next series, and scored on a 22-yard return to make it 38-17 with 6:30 left in the stanza.

Tettleton finished the barrage with a 40-yard touchdown toss to Landon Smith that made it 45-17.

Akeelie Mustafa snapped the string for New Mexico State with a 91-yard kick off return touchdown, but by then it was too late. Field goals by Weller, from 25 and 26 yards, in the fourth quarter finished off the easy home win.

"The second half, like last week, was where we made some big strides," Tettleton said. "We really came together and got it done."

Ohio's first possession of the night ended with Tettleton's 6-yard touchdown run and the Bobcats looked like they would be in for a big night.

The Aggies pulled even on Tiger Powell's 2-yard score late in the first, but Ohio surged back in front 14-7 on Tettleton's 28-yard touchdown to Donte Foster.

New Mexico State tied it again, with 10:40 left in the first half, on Manley's 42-yard touchdown pass to Franklin, before Blankenship's longest run of the night snapped the tie for good late in the second quarter.

Ohio wasn't always pretty — it had a field goal blocked and gave up a kick-off return touchdown for instance — but wiped out an opponent it was expected to anyway.

"It was just a matter of executing much better," Solich said. "They were frustrated, I was frustrated (in the first half). We all want to play better."

Ohio puts its unbeaten record on the line next Saturday night at Marshall. Kick off is scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

College football: Central Ohio Watch

Mark Znidar

Columbus Dispatch - Sept. 11, 2012

For the few seconds it takes a football team to break the huddle and line up for a play, Keith Moore's brain began to go haywire as he scanned the crowd of 97,000-plus inside Beaver Stadium two weeks ago.

Moore, a redshirt junior linebacker from Grove City, was starting his first college game for Ohio University. His mother, father, girlfriend, best friend and four relatives were in the stands watching.

"I was nervous, but really excited," Moore said. "I told my dad later on that before that first play, I said to myself, 'Oh, my, I am going to play against Penn State, a team I had been watching for years on national television growing up.'"

Seconds later, after players from both teams began getting to their feet after the tackle, Moore was OK. He knew he belonged.

"Everything went back to normal," he said. "I said, 'This is just football, the game I grew up playing in the back yard.'"

Moore played an integral role in the Bobcats' 24-14 victory over the Nit-tany Lions by making eight tackles and recovering a fumble.

He was just as important in a 45-24 victory over New Mexico State on Saturday in making nine tackles and breaking up a pass.

What is remarkable is that four years ago Moore was preparing to watch football games in the stands at Peden Stadium as a student. He had passed up an offer to play for Marian College near Indianapolis.

"I backed out of that," Moore said. "I just didn't feel good about it. Then two days before Ohio started classes I got a call from the coaches asking if I would walk on to play on the practice squad."

Moore was a 5-foot-11, 190-pound defensive back. Thirty-five pounds and a lot of heavy-duty eating and weightlifting later, he's the man in the middle and on scholarship.

Linebackers coach Ron Collins told Moore days after a Famous Idaho Potato Bowl victory over Utah State in December that his studies would be paid for.

"It was a long time coming," Moore said. "I won't lie — it was rough at times being a walk-on. It has been a lot of hard work. The coaches are so good to walk-ons here. Coach Collins kept telling me last year that I was having a good season and that (the scholarship) could be coming. I kept fighting. Coach Collins finally told me, 'I'm pretty sure I got you, son.'"

Moore was way down on the depth chart after switching from safety to linebacker, but he quickly made a name for himself on special teams. Last season, he began playing linebacker on third down around midseason.

With Noah Keller having graduated, Moore became a starter this season.

"I knew the odds were against me," he said. "It was so very, very discouraging at first. I was so small, but I kept eating and lifting. I mean, I ate a lot."

Moore will graduate with a degree in exercise physiology this school year and will play next season as a graduate student.

"I have two options," he said. "I can go for a bachelor's degree in arts and science. That is a one-year course of study. Or I can go to graduate school and also work in a cardiac rehabilitation facility. All I know is that this is an awesome time to be a Bobcat."



Frank Solich transforming Ohio University into the ‘Boise State’ of the Midwest

Eric Adelson

Yahoo Sports - Sept. 12, 2012

Frank Solich has a rule. He vowed he would never break it. No matter what, he told himself, he would never take a head coaching job at a school that didn't have a conveniently located airport.

He broke the rule. And not just a little bit, either. Ohio University, where Solich took the head coaching job seven years ago, is more than an hour from the nearest airport. How remote is it? So remote that West Virginia is closer than the Columbus airport. So remote that you have to drive through a national forest to get from Athens to your flight.

“We don't have a major airport nearby,” Solich says. “We don't have a large population. We're kind of isolated. Those things are concerning.”

Not concerning enough, apparently. Ohio U. is now the hottest football team in the Buckeye State. Sorry Columbus, Cincinnati, and Cleveland (and Oxford, Akron, Bowling Green and Toledo). The Bobcats had at least as many wins last year (10) as any other Division I team in the state. That hasn't happened since 1968. And it's likely to happen again, as Ohio is the only unbeaten MAC team, having already beaten Penn State on the road. The Bobcats are favored to win the rest of their games, and although you shouldn't expect them to get consideration for a BCS bowl, you should expect them to be a topic in the wearying December debates about who “deserves” what bowl.

“We can be kind of like a Boise State,” says senior quarterback Tyler Tettleton. “We're still not at a top level but we can be recognized across the country.”

The key word is “recognized,” because both Tettleton and Solich are on the verge of getting recognition that's well overdue. Solich, you'll recall, was Tom Osborne's hand-picked successor at Nebraska. He took the Cornhuskers to the national title game in 2001 after 19 years as an assistant, but was fired two years later with his “appalling” record of 58-19. (Solich had more wins over the same six-season time frame than Osborne did in his first half-dozen years.) Bo Pelini will have to go 18-2 to match Solich's record. He hasn't even taken the Huskers to a BCS bowl.

Nebraska's trash was Ohio's treasure. Solich was perfect for a program that needed to set itself apart from the too-many-to-name D-I competitors in the state. Forget about challenging OSU, how about competing against Kent State?

“We have not had a strong winning history,” acknowledges athletic director Jim Schaus. “At some point you have to develop a vision. You need the right leadership. He knows what a successful program looks like.”

And what a successful quarterback looks like. Solich had one in Eric Crouch, and although Tettleton is much more traditional in style, the winning knack is the same.

Tettleton has dealt with his own Big 12 snub. He grew up a huge Okla-

homa State fan and got serious interest from the Cowboys until he tore his ACL as a junior in high school. Every single D-I offer vanished – eight to 10 schools, he says – and the son of former big-league slugger Mickey Tettleton was left with a lone offer from Northern Iowa. Then Ohio reached out at the last minute and Tettleton de-committed to go to Athens.

“I wanted to prove a lot of people wrong,” Tettleton says. “I'm not saying anything's wrong with Ohio. I just felt like I wanted to prove something to all those people that dropped me.”

So the spurned coach and the spurned quarterback went on the war-path together. Ohio won its first-ever bowl game last December, the Famous Potato Bowl in (of all places) Boise. This season the Bobcats have outscored opponents 51-10 in the second half and Tettleton has thrown for 599 yards and six touchdowns in the fourth quarter alone. Penn State looked like it might have had its opening game in hand at halftime, but Ohio did all the scoring after the break to stun the Nittany Lions. Clearly some of the resilience of both Solich and Tettleton has shown up on the field.

“We're two tough people,” Tettleton says. “Competitive guys, all about winning.”

That might be the best parallel between Ohio and Boise State (besides the remote location). It's way too soon to compare the two programs on the field, as Boise has done nothing but win under Chris Peterson for many years now, but in both cases you've had a no-nonsense head coach paired with an undersized quarterback (both are 6-feet tall) who makes precious few errors against supposedly better teams. Kellen Moore was never going to be Dan Marino, but it's hard to bench a guy who keeps the offense on the field. Tettleton hasn't thrown an interception in nearly 100 attempts, going back to last season.

“Getting done what Boise got done requires a lot of things to go right,” says Solich. “You need to win at a tremendously high level. Win your conference. Continue to go to bowl games and win bowl games. I'm not a guy that tries to look that far down the road. I want to do everything right, right now. Then another step will be ahead of you.”

There are suddenly several steps in view. Solich has kept his staff mostly intact. His reluctance to eye bigger jobs (he's 68) gives recruiting major ballast. The school is building a \$12.5 million indoor complex. And Solich will be the first to tell you about a new highway bypass that will make the trip to the airport a little less arduous.

There will be no international airport in Athens anytime soon. But if the Bobcats keep winning, coming to play in Southeast Ohio will be less about how you're getting there and more about where you're going.

These are the good old days for Ohio

Mark Znidar

The Charleston Gazette - Sept. 12, 2012

When Ohio administrators landed exiled former Nebraska football coach Frank Solich to coach the wobbling Bobcats in December 2004, they had something like this in mind.

Solich, separated from his beloved Cornhuskers in 2003 after three decades of service, has long since made his home in Athens where he has begun his eighth season. That makes him the fourth-longest serving coach in the program's history.

That wasn't necessarily expected. Nor were the following: Solich is 52-40 at Ohio entering Saturday's 6:30 p.m. game at Marshall. The last OU coach 12 games above .500 was Bill Hess, who went 108-91-4 from 1958-77.

Speaking of the Hess era, 1968 was the last time the Bobcats won 10 games in a season - until last year, when the Bobcats went 10-4 and won the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl.

Oh yeah, that was the Bobcats' first-ever bowl victory.

Oh, yeah, Part II: That haul to Boise was Ohio's third bowl game in a row, exactly half the school's all-time total.

The 2011 senior class compiled a 36-27 record, the best five-year run in school history.

And along the way, the Bobcats thrashed Marshall 44-7 last September.

"It was an amazing year, not only for me but this team, the whole program and the university," said quarterback Tyler Tettleton. "It was something special, great to be a part of and something we'll try to build on."

As if that weren't enough, the Bobcats opened this season with a 24-14 win at Penn State. The circumstances were unusual, to put it mildly, but the Nittany Lions built a 14-3 halftime lead.

Ohio then overwhelmed Penn State in the second half, scoring 21 unanswered points. In the final three quarters, Ohio outgained Penn State 447-173, a previously unthinkable stat.

It was Ohio's second Big Ten scalp under Solich, with Illinois the other victim in 2006. The Bobcats also upended Pittsburgh in 2005, in Solich's second game.

And now, Ohio will try to win its first two road games for the first time since 1976, and beat Marshall in consecutive games for the first time in three decades. After Saturday, the Bobcats will try to win their first MAC title since 1968.

Yes, these are the glory days of Ohio football, and the players don't want them to end.

"Hopefully, we'll win 11 games, win the MAC championship and go to a bigger bowl," Tettleton said.

Ohio QB has big league arm

Derek Redd

Charleston Daily Mail - Sept. 13, 2012

CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Of the many benefits to having a two-time Major League Baseball All-Star catcher as a dad, Ohio University quarterback Tyler Tettleton said one of the best is the advice. The sports they play may differ, but Mickey Tettleton can offer sage words to when it comes to how to approach athletics at the highest levels.

Among the most important, Tyler Tettleton said, is the need to stay calm.

"The one thing he's really instilled in me is to not be too high or too low, just be even keel and not show many emotions out there," he said. "That's one of the biggest things I've learned from him, and it's helped me a lot."

That's not always easy to do, especially when national pundits predict your football team can finish its season undefeated. But to accomplish that, the Bobcats (2-0) must first get past a Marshall team still smarting from last year's 44-7 loss in the "Battle for the Bell."

Kickoff is 6:30 p.m. Saturday.

"We know they're going to be out for some revenge," he said.

Tettleton threw for 285 yards and three touchdowns and rushed for another 53 yards and a score in last year's game at Athens. That performance was a perfect example of his 2011 season, where he became the Bobcats' first 3,000-yard passer and also finished second on the team in rushing with 658 yards. He also led Ohio to a Famous Idaho Potato Bowl win over Utah State, the first bowl victory in school history.

While the redshirt junior is dangerous both with his arm and his feet, Tettleton said he's always considered himself a pass-first quarterback.

"When anything is not there, I get into scramble mode, I try to make things happen with my feet," he said. "I don't try to slide or get out of bounds. I try to extend that play and get the extra yards. That's what Coach (Frank Solich) wants out of us, to be tough, hard-nosed guys and to get every inch we can."

"Tough" is a word both Solich and Marshall Coach Doc Holliday use to describe Tettleton. He recovered from an ACL tear his junior year at Norman North High School in Oklahoma to play for one of the two universities to offer him a scholarship, New Mexico State being the other. He carried the ball 166 times in 2011, second most on the team.

"He's what a quarterback's all about," Holliday said. "What I've said all along is that the quarterback position, intangibles are what

it's all about, and there's no doubt he has that. He brings a lot to the table and you better ... when you talk about them you start with him. There's no doubt he's the leader of that offense."

Solich said Tettleton's mental and physical toughness make him a favorite among his teammates. He's a favorite among his receivers because of his release. Tettleton has the ability to anticipate receivers breaking open. Plus he's a devoted student of the game.

"He's a very bright player," Solich said. "He's a smart football player, so he's not a guy that makes the same mistakes over and over again. He's the complete quarterback and it's always difficult when you're faced with defending a complete quarterback."

With Tettleton under center, some in the national media have predicted great things for Ohio. SI.com's Holly Anderson predicted the Bobcats to finish 12-0 and Tettleton to be the Mid-American Conference's top offensive player. And while that buzz has grown both in and around Athens, Tettleton and the rest of the Bobcats' upperclassmen have been preaching patience and calmness.

He knows the Thundering Herd (1-1) wants the bell back and will be fueled by a Joan C. Edwards Stadium atmosphere he said is one of his favorites in which to play. So it won't be too difficult to refrain from daydreaming of season's end and focus on Saturday.

"It's so tough to not look ahead and to think about being 12-0, win the MAC championship and all that stuff, but you can't get wrapped up in all that stuff," he said. "We really emphasize to just take it one game, one week at a time."



Blankenship shouldering the load

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 13, 2012

In two games since assuming the mantle of starting running back, Ohio junior Beau Blankenship has shown everything head coach Frank Solich could have asked for.

Toughness. Dependability. Production. Durability.

"He's shown to be one of those workhorse type of backs," Solich said. "By his toughness, he's able to turn those two or three yard runs into a five or six yard gain."

Two years ago, however, Blankenship was looking for a fresh start. The player lauded for his toughness now couldn't stay on the field at Iowa State.

Blankenship, a compact 5-foot-9 and 202 pounds, signed with the Cyclones after starring in high school. As a teammate of current Ohio quarterback Tyler Tettleton at Norman North High School in Oklahoma, Blankenship racked up 5,050 rushing yards and 59 total touchdowns.

That success didn't translate at Iowa State. As a true freshman with the Cyclones in 2009, Blankenship played in seven games and got just four carries.

"It looked real promising my first year. I was in line to get a real shot," he said. "I didn't redshirt and then I got injured a few times.

"After that, my shot...well they kind of pushed me away."

Blankenship sprained a foot to miss the second half of the 2009 season. Another injury knocked him out of spring ball. Then early in fall camp of 2010, he rolled an ankle. It was the final straw.

"I felt like it was a sign I needed a fresh start and needed to leave," Blankenship said.

Blankenship called his high school teammate, came to Ohio a few weeks later, and has been a mainstay with the Bobcats ever since. He played on the scout team in 2010 while sitting out a redshirt year. Last fall he developed into the top backup, and this fall he's the clear-cut starter.

"When I talked to (Tettleton), he gave me a straight answer," Blankenship said. "He said it's a great spot, and he loved it here.

"After that, everything worked out. I felt like God opened the door and I'm blessed to be here."

So far, Blankenship has blessed the Ohio offense with two, tough-as-nails, uber-productive starts. He ranks eighth in the nation with 138.5 rushing yards per game. His 349 all-purpose yards leads the team. Blankenship is averaging 29 carries a game, 4.8 yards per carry and has two touchdowns with 277 yards for the season.

His relentless style -- Blankenship finishes runs well and always seems to get yards after first contact -- has given Ohio's offense a physical presence to balance out the wide-open throwing used by Tettleton and the club's receiving core.

Blankenship has been so impressive in the first two games he's already

drawing comparisons to Calvin McRae -- the program's all-time leading rusher and the driving force behind Solich's first teams at Ohio from 2005-07.

Offensive coordinator Tim Albin, who also coaches the running backs, can see the similarity. While McRae was patient and picked his way through traffic, Blankenship uses quickness to attack the hole quickly.

Both however, get the most out of every play, and never have to leave the field.

"I think that's a very good analogy. Calvin was the most durable, he was the durable king. He was an every down guy," Albin said. "I see a lot of that in Beau. Whatever is blocked, he gets. And then he's falling forward, which is huge. There's lot of yards after contact."

Albin's stable of backs -- Blankenship, junior Ryan Boykin, redshirt freshman Kyle Hammonds and true freshman Daz'mond Patterson -- all have different strengths. But Blankenship brings the whole package.

"He's playing at a level better than any of the other backs I got, as far as every down. Daz goes good things, Kyle does good things, Ryan does good things. But when you combine all three things, he's done a really nice job," Albin said.

Blankenship said he's not about to shy away from the heavy early-season workload. That's what he wants. After his stint at Iowa State, he's eager to prove he can be the durable, every-down threat Ohio wants.

"When I was training and preparing for the season, that's what I had in my mindset -- to be able to carry that load and shoulder it," he said. "The weight room, the lifting, the running, the agility work -- all of it -- and then the mindset. I believe I can carry as many times as they want.

"That's what it was like in high school. That's what I'm used to and that's what I like."



Bobcats escape Marshall with 27-24 win

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 15, 2012

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — Jelani Woseley was in the right place at the right time.

And because of that, the Bobcats finally had a winning feeling in one of their least-favorite locales.

Woseley's interception, with 29 seconds remaining, halted a potential game-winning drive and helped Ohio escape Huntington with a 27-24 win over Marshall in front of 33,426 on Saturday night.

It was the Bobcats' first win in Huntington since 1977, and Ohio's first-ever in Joan C. Edwards Stadium. Ohio (3-0) overcame deficits of 14-0 (first quarter) and 24-17 (fourth quarter) to craft another tough-as-nails epic in what could be shaping up to be a special season.

"I couldn't be any prouder of our guys," said Ohio coach Frank Solich. "This was another tremendous comeback."

The late pick was the only blemish on a record-setting night for Marshall quarterback Rakeem Cato. The sophomore completed a Marshall record 44 passes on 65 attempts and racked up 432 yards and three touchdowns. But his last throw was the one he'll remember.

"I was just looking at his eyes. He tried to look off and I waited," Woseley said. "He tried to throw it over, but I was able to jump up and catch it."

Marshall took a 21-17 lead in the third when Cato fired a 14-yard touchdown pass to Gator Hoskins; the throw had so much mustard it split a defensive double-team.

The Thundering Herd made it 24-17 with 14:13 remaining after Justin Haig booted home a 37-yard field goal.

The Bobcats drew closer with 10:43 remaining when, on fourth-and-five from the Marshall 27, quarterback Tyler Tettleton changed the play at the line of scrimmage and lofted a touchdown pass to Ryan Clark down the right sideline. The touchdown toss tied it 24-24.

"I probably shouldn't have done that, but it worked out well," said Tettleton, who finished 20 of 35 for 200 yards and three touchdowns. "I just have that kind of confidence in Ryan to go get it."

After the teams exchanged punts, Marshall kicked the passing game into gear again and was looking at a third-and-two from the Ohio 30. Cato fired to Antavious Wilson in the right flat, but Ohio cornerback Lorenzo Fisher popped the ball free. Ohio nickel back Nathan Carpenter swiped the ball out of mid-air and raced 48 yards down the Marshall 31.

After a series of runs, Ohio kicker Matt Weller booted home a 38-yard field goal to give the Bobcats the 27-24 lead with 1:37 to go.

"I turned around, the receiver was juggling the ball and I just tried to snatch it out of the air," Carpenter said. "I tried to run as far as I could."

Marshall's last drive reached the Ohio 27, but on second-and-10 Cato drifted to his right and tried to throw late back across the middle.

Woseley was waiting on it. Ohio took three kneel-downs and left town

with back-to-back wins over Marshall for the first time since 1980.

"3-0 right now is an amazing feat by our guys," Solich said. "We've played three, tough, physical football teams, and found a way to get the job done."

The Herd opened the game full of arm-waving, prancing swagger. All of that was gone by halftime, however, as the Bobcats turned the game around with a dominating second quarter.

Cato came out firing, and hit 14 of his first 17 passes. By the time the first quarter ended, Marshall led 14-0 on touchdown passes from Cato to Jazz King (3 yards) and Aaron Dobson (five yards).

Ohio switched gears and flipped the script in the second quarter. Ohio piled up 200 yards in the second quarter alone, and had surged back to take the lead by intermission after Tettleton touchdown passes to Troy Hill (six yards) and Tyler Futrell (four yards), and Weller's 22-yard field goal.

"We just started clicking. We just started making plays," said Ohio RB Beau Blankenship, who finished with 102 yards on 30 carries. "We were kind of slow at the beginning but then started coming together a little bit."

Thanks to the late escape, the Bobcats' perfect season remains intact. Ohio puts it on the line against next week with a 2 p.m. start against Football Championship Subdivision foe Norfolk State at Peden Stadium.

"Last year, we started 3-0 as well and we lost the fourth game. We can't let that happen again this year," Carpenter said.



Solich wants to slow down Tettleton

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 17, 2012

The task is two-fold for the Bobcats this week.

Not only does Ohio (3-0) want to keep its perfect record intact, but head coach Frank Solich would also like to shore up the overall health of his club. He said he'll be careful this week as the Bobcats prep to face Football Championship Subdivision (FCS, formerly Division I-AA) foe Norfolk State (2-1) Saturday afternoon inside Peden Stadium.

Specifically, Solich was referring to starting quarterback Tyler Tettleton. Ohio's signal caller entered the game at Marshall with sore ribs; he left it with a bruised hand.

The same could be said for starting running back Beau Blankenship. Ninth in the nation in rushing yards per game (126.3 yards/game), Blankenship is on pace for more than 320 carries this season. He's dinged up with a sore knee.

Solich likes the way both players go hard every day, but seemed determined Monday to find a way to ease their load in practice this week.

"(Tettleton) only has one gear. He only knows how to play the game one way," Solich said. "I can't get him to not practice.

"We're going to tie him up this week a little bit and let him heal up before he goes out and goes 100 miles an hour like he usually does — whether he likes it or not."

Sure enough, Tettleton was held out of Monday's practice.

"I hate it. It's the worst thing you can do to me. But they want me to sit out for safety reasons and rest and all that. It's fine with me," Tettleton said. "Anyway that can get me ready for Saturday, I'll do it."

Ohio has other injury concerns. The team's depth at cornerback took another hit Monday when Solich said junior Jamil Shaw will likely miss the rest of the season. Shaw, the starter for the opener at Penn State, injured his shoulder just eight plays into the game.

"He tried to come back on that shoulder and it's slipping," Solich said. "It needs surgery. I don't think there's any chance of getting him back."

On the defensive line, starting DE Tremayne Scott may miss several weeks. Scott re-injured his foot in the win at Marshall; he broke the same foot in spring camp back in March. Solich said a walking boot for the next few weeks may be the limit of Scott's activity.

There are other issues. WR Donte Foster is still wearing a hard mold on his injured thumb. RB Ryan Boykin is still not 100 percent with a sore hamstring. NG Neal Huynh missed Monday's workout with a sore shoulder. OLB AJ Grady and CB Ian Wells — a starter with Shaw out — also sat out Monday's practice.

"We have to be conscious of our health," Solich said.

Polling data

Ohio continued to pick up steam in the Associated Press Top 25 poll this week, but failed to move the needle much in the USA Today/Coaches' Poll.

In the AP poll, Ohio clocked in at No. 29 in the country and received 20 points. A total of 11 voters listed the Bobcats on their respective Top 25 ballot.

Ohio appeared on five ballots after week one, and on nine ballots after week two. Ohio was 34th overall, with 17 points, in the AP poll a week ago.

The Bobcats were listed at No. 25 by six voters; Ohio's highest listing on a ballot was No. 22.

In the Coaches' Poll, Ohio was tied for 42nd with five points this week. A week ago, the Bobcats were tied for 44th with just two points.

Winner, winner

Ohio made it a perfect 3-for-3, in regards to the MAC East Division Players of the Week awards, on Monday.

For a third straight week, at least one Bobcat was named to the weekly honor roll. And this time, Ohio had double winners.

Tettleton, a junior QB, and senior kicker Matt Weller both earned Player of the Week honors after Ohio's win over Marshall on Saturday night.

Tettleton, the MAC East Offensive Player of the Week, completed 20 of 35 passes for 200 yards and three touchdowns. Tettleton completed passes to nine different receivers, didn't throw an interception and improved to 13-4 as a starter. It was the fourth time in his career that Tettleton received the award.

Weller, meanwhile, picked up his seventh MAC East Special Teams Player of the Week award after he connected on a pair of field goals, including the game-winner from 38 yards away.

Weller also hit all three of his PAT kicks, and averaged 59.8 yards per kick off with two touchbacks.



Bobcats wary of FCS Spartans

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 19, 2012

At first glance, Ohio seems to be set up with a tailor-made opponent on Parent's Weekend.

The Bobcats (3-0) will make their now yearly foray against Football Championship Subdivision (FCS, formerly Division I-A) on Saturday when they host Norfolk State (2-1) inside Peden Stadium.

But Ohio head coach Frank Solich said the Spartans' FCS moniker shouldn't be taken lightly. Norfolk State will have the athletes available to give the Bobcats plenty to worry about.

"They're very athletic when you look at them on tape," Solich said. "I don't know how they're perceived by other people, I know how they're perceived by our coaches. And I know once our players get a chance to see them on film, I know how they'll be perceived by our players."

"They're a very good football team, they're capable of winning."

Norfolk State has a recent winning pedigree. The Spartans were 9-3 in 2011, and qualified for the FCS playoffs. Norfolk State opened this season 2-0, and rallied back from 23-0 and 30-7 deficits before falling 37-36 in overtime to Howard last weekend.

"They'll play very good football. They'll be very confident in their abilities coming in, as they should be," Solich said. "We expect it to be a heck of a football game."

Ohio will have more scholarship players, and in general more depth and a size advantage. But the Spartans won't be short on playmakers.

As an example, the Bobcats have three players on their roster who originally signed with schools from the power six, or BCS automatic qualifying, conferences. The Spartans will have seven.

Four of those transfers are on the defensive side of the ball in the form of a trio of backup linebackers and defensive tackle Cameron Jude. Jude, 6-3, 290 pounds, transferred in from Michigan State.

Offensively, three of the Spartans' best originally started their college careers elsewhere. Offensive lineman Michael Kay began at Syracuse. Wide receiver Xavier Boyce, the Spartans best big-play threat and first team all-conference preseason selection, began at Virginia Tech. Starting quarterback Nico Flores, a fourth-year junior, started his college career with UCF.

And that list of transfers from bigger programs doesn't include OLB Jamal Giddens — who has 12 tackles for loss and 7.5 sacks in his last five games — or redshirt freshman RB Brendon Riddick, who already has 260 rushing yards and six touchdowns on the year.

The Spartans have guys who can play.

"Just because they play at a smaller school doesn't really mean anything," said Ohio senior wide receiver Bakari Bussey. "Football is football wherever you go. And they have good football players."

The divide between FCS and the majority of non-BCS level FBS programs isn't nearly as large as it used to be either. In 2012, FCS teams have been

particular efficient at scoring upsets over 'higher level' competition.

In three-plus weeks, nine FCS programs have scored wins over FBS opponents. There were four such upsets on Sept. 15 alone. One Mid-American Conference team, Eastern Michigan, has already had such a loss this season.

Ohio players were made aware of this fact this week.

"We don't want to be another one of those guys," said senior defensive end Corey Hasting.

"They got skill kids all over the field. We can't take them lightly whatsoever," he added. "This is going to be their biggest game of the year. They're going to come in here thinking they can win and thinking they have a chance. It's up to us as a team to stop that in the first quarter."

Norfolk State will be playing a FBS foe for the fifth time in the program's history, all coming in the last six seasons. The Spartans haven't had a near-miss yet however.

Norfolk State has played twice at Rutgers, once at Kentucky and once at West Virginia since 2011. The combined score of those games is 183-15.

But as the Spartans proved in March with an upset win over Missouri in the NCAA Tournament, it only takes one win to make people notice.

It's a concept not unfamiliar to the Bobcats, who enter every game thinking they can win.

"We always feel we can go and upset any team. We don't feel that anybody is outright better than us. If we play hard and play our best ball, we can come out on top," Ohio WR Ryan Clark said. "I'm sure any other team feels that way."

"Clearly we have a bulls-eye on our back right now, so of course they're going to bring their 'A' game and we're going to have to prepare for that."



Clark's transformation is complete

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 20, 2012

After scoring his first collegiate touchdown on Saturday night, Ohio redshirt senior Ryan Clark said he's been getting plenty of congratulations around campus -- and also a question.

"Why didn't you move to receiver sooner? Stuff like that," explained Clark.

Indeed, Clark's transition from cornerback to wide receiver is certainly complete. A fourth-quarter, game-tying touchdown -- on fourth down nonetheless -- is a sure-fire way to cement your status as one of the team's key playmakers.

As little as six weeks ago, Ohio fans were probably unaware of Clark -- who converted from defensive back to wideout last spring. But for those in the know, head coach Frank Solich and quarterback Tyler Tettleton for instance, Clark's adjustment to the offensive side of the football was one of the key developments of fall camp.

Clark, a 5-9, 169-pounder burner from Macedonia, Ohio, gives the Bobcats an explosive speed guy on the outside. Clark is regarded as the fastest player on the Ohio roster.

"With his athleticism and his speed, he's got to be on the field somewhere," said Tettleton, who has completed nine passes for 114 yards to Clark. "He's made huge strides this fall and it's just great to see him grow each week.

"We can use that and it's going to help us down the road."

Ohio needed more speed at the position. Solich said Clark had already proven hands -- he's been a punt returner for the past three years -- so it made sense to ask him to switch spots last spring.

"You can't have enough good receivers when you run our style of offense," Solich said. "It's played out really well for him, it's played out well for us."

Clark came to Ohio as a walk-on. After a redshirt year, he broke through as a special teams contributor in 2009 and 2010. Last season Clark played in all 14 games, mostly as kick-off and punt returner. As a corner, reps were hard to come by.

Clark said he didn't mind the position switch. After fighting to eventually earn a scholarship, he wasn't content. He wanted to do more.

"That was a big part of it. There was a better chance of me getting on the field. I wanted to contribute more," he said.

The transition wasn't instant. It required a lot of route running in the off season; it meant plenty of extra throwing and catching with Tettleton during the summer. But Clark wasn't a complete novice; he played WR at Nordon HS, and spent four years working against Ohio's wide receivers in practice.

Clark wasn't learning a new position, he was knocking the rust off an old one.

In fact, it was easier than trying to stick through the lean times when he was a walk-on.

"It was a lot of up and downs. It's a real challenge of your character. You

just have to be strong," said Clark, who said the support of teammates, family and coaches kept him going.

"Everyone who wants to play college football believes they can contribute to the team. When you don't really get the opportunity to do it as much as you think you can, that's in the back of your head," he added. "You keep working hard and hope that your time will come. Hard work pays off."

If Ohio goes on to have a memorable season, Clark will have two of the big plays that got the Bobcats off on the right foot. In the opener at Penn State, Ohio trailed 14-10 in the third quarter and faced third down at midfield. Tettleton went deep down the right side, and Clark hauled in a 33-yarder that moved the chains.

The 'Cats faced a similar situation last Saturday in Huntington. With Ohio down 7, fourth-down at the Marshall 27, Tettleton made a line call and fired deep to Clark again. And again, he came through.

Senior wide receiver Bakari Bussey said Clark didn't need the big catches to earn his stripes with the position group. He already had them.

"He was on the dark side before," Bussey joked, referring to Clark's CB past. "He's someone we need. He's that shifty, fast receiver. He'll shake somebody in a phone booth.

"He already knew a lot of the stuff," Bussey continued. "It's not hard for him to break somebody off, especially with his quickness."

A developing weapon in the passing game, Clark has already established himself on special teams. When Ohio wants to make sure a punt is caught, Clark is back deep receiving it. He was already accepted as one of the Bobcats' more potent return guys.

Clark is averaging 11.6 yards per punt return this season, and Ohio's 10.2 yard punt return average is third in the Mid-American Conference.

"He had some experience as a punt return guy, but with Travis (Carrie) out he's become the main guy," Solich said. "(10 yard average) that's what you strive for. That's kind of a magic number there. If you can get that, then you know you're getting something done fairly well."

Clark survived several seasons of being a walk-on. He navigated a position switch late in his career. And now he's found a way to be an impact player for Ohio in multiple areas.

He never doubted he could do it.

"I never really lost it, you could say. Playing corner is a lot of the same footwork, you're just doing it running forward so it's a lot easier," he grinned.

"The transition was easier because I know how to attack corners now. I know what they're trying to take away," Clark continued. "I wasn't catching every pass last spring, but I caught a lot of balls in the off-season and I got it back."

And now Ohio can't imagine going forward without Clark as part of the offensive attack.

"You could just tell by the end of the summer he could be a go-to guy for us," Tettleton said. "I'm thrilled we have someone like him who can really get down the field."



Bobcats focused only on Spartans

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 21, 2012

It was one of the 'darkest' days in Ohio University football history.

Sept. 7, 2002. The Bobcats, in the second game of the second season of then head coach Brian Knorr, laid a colossal-sized egg in the home opener as visiting Northeastern shut out Ohio 31-0.

Northeastern was a Division I-AA program, now known as the Football Championship Subdivision.

Why the history lesson? It's a clear example of why current head coach Frank Solich employs, and always has, a classic 'one game at a time' approach. Don't worry about what's ahead, or behind. Focus on the here and now.

Solich and his Bobcats have spouted off the philosophy plenty this week. Ohio (3-0) puts its undefeated mark on the line today against FCS foe Norfolk State (2-1) inside Peden Stadium.

"We expect it to be a heck of a football game," Solich said. "With our approach...we're putting everything into that and hopefully it's going to be good enough."

These are heady days for Ohio. The club is gunning for its first 4-0 start since 1976. The Bobcats are receiving votes in both major top 25 polls, and Ohio is the preseason favorite to win the Mid-American Conference. But any concern that Ohio will be looking past the Spartans is ill-founded, said senior wide receiver Bakari Bussey.

"We look at every team like we're playing Alabama," he said, referencing the current No. 1 team in the country. "We look at every team like that. We play everybody the same. We practice and prepare for everybody the same way."

Well, Ohio is preparing almost normally. Starting QB Tyler Tettleton is questionable for today's game, and missed substantial practice time this week because of a non-disclosed upper body injury. Tettleton figures to be a game-time decision, and if he can't go then redshirt freshman Derrius Vick will get the starting nod.

Whether that injury is enough to throw off Ohio's offense -- averaging 494 yards and 34 points a game -- remains to be seen. What the Bobcats know already is that the Spartans are athletic enough to cause problems with their 3-4 front. Norfolk State has held opponents to 3.0 yards per carry, and cause havoc with defensive impact plays. The Spartans average more than 9.0 tackles for loss and 3.5 sacks per game.

Outside linebacker Jamal Giddens and Lynden Trail are the biggest disrupters, and both show the kind of athleticism that stands out on tape.

"They can really run. They're one-on-one good football players," Solich said. "And they've got skilled people. They have guys who can really make big plays on both sides of the ball."

Offensively, the Spartans will test Ohio with a balanced attack. QB Nico Flores is a dual-threat option -- he subbed in as a Wildcat quarterback last year -- who has rushed for 131 yards and thrown for 542 more with four touchdowns. RB Brendon Riddick paces the ground game with 260 rushing yards and a 6.5 yards per carry average. On the outside, Virginia

Tech transfer Xavier Boyce (18 catches, 152 yards) is a flanker that will bear special attention.

Ohio has allowed just 20.7 points and 350 yards per game, and been especially stout against the run; the 'Cats are 12th in the nation in allowing just 74.0 rushing yards per contest.

The Bobcats will have corral the zone read, and Flores on designed runs. Ohio would like to establish control early.

"This is going to be their biggest game of the year," said senior DE Corey Hasting. "They're going to come in here thinking they can win and thinking they have a chance. It's up to us as a team to set the tone in the first quarter."

Under Solich, Ohio is 6-0 against FCS competition. The Bobcats have never scored less than 28 points in those six games and won by an average score of 34.5 to 11.8. The closest call in the Solich era came in 2009 with a 28-10 win over Cal Poly.

Ohio generally keeps it close to the vest in such games with Solich -- it has scored more than 36 points just once in the six games -- and instead typically grinds the game down with a run-heavy scheme.

Ohio has won eight in a row overall against FCS teams, but that loss to Northeastern (a program which no longer exists) wasn't that long ago.

Current Bobcats players aren't prodded with that, but they are reminded about the team's approach on a daily basis.

"Everyone is capable of winning the game. It's college football, things can go wrong and things can go your way," said senior WR Ryan Clark. "You can't look past one team because of what league they're in or what status they have. You just have to prepare for each team the same way."

"That's what we do here."

Football: Ohio throttles Norfolk State

Mark Znidar

Columbus Dispatch - Sept. 22, 2012

ATHENS, Ohio - There were only two bits of intrigue surrounding the Ohio University football team today, but chances are only a few hundred people in Peden Stadium saw the first one play out.

Just minutes before the Bobcats kicked off to Norfolk State, ESPN3 cameras spied coach Frank Solich telling star quarterback Tyler Tettleton that he was being held out of the game for precautionary reasons. Tettleton suffered an undisclosed injury to his right side and a bruised right throwing hand against Marshall last week.

It didn't take long to learn that the Bobcats would be just fine with Tettleton wearing a ball cap and watching from the sideline.

Redshirt freshman Derrius Vick ended all intrigue by doing a fair impersonation of Tettleton by throwing for four touchdowns in Ohio's 44-10 victory over Norfolk State before 23,673 on Parents Weekend.

In many ways, the game had the look and feel of the annual Green & White spring scrimmage, only with thousands more people in attendance. It was the sixth-largest crowd in stadium history.

Even though Tettleton did not practice during the week, the coaching staff did not rule him out until he had difficulty moving during pre-game.

Vick, who is a redshirt freshman from Lincoln, Neb., was told to get ready. He completed 14 of 20 passes for 199 yards.

"I was a little nervous, but after the first play I felt all right," he said. "I knew I had a veteran offense. Every position, we're loaded. Everyone knows they have to come in and do their thing."

Vick's second completion, a 10-yard TD toss to Donte Foster on third-and-goal, was a thing of beauty. Standing confidently in the pocket, he hit Foster in stride in the right corner of the end zone. The defensive back had no chance to make a play.

Four plays before the Bobcats took a 24-0 lead, Vick again showed patience and poise by bailing out of the pocket to find tight end Derrick Roback down the middle for a 46-yard completion to the Spartans' 25-yard line.

Vick threw another touch pass for his final touchdown, a tight 13-yard spiral to Foster in the right corner of the end zone with 6:50 left in the third quarter that made it 41-0.

"We throw that play maybe 10 times in practice every day," Foster said. "Today, he was throwing it right on the money. I think he came in there with a lot of confidence. He stepped to the plate and delivered. He got to the line and executed. It didn't feel any different (from Tettleton). He threw the ball great."

Solich is 10 years removed from the University of Nebraska, where he was a player, assistant coach and head coach for 29 years, but he has contin-

ued to recruit the state.

Vick was signed out of Southeast High School, where Solich coached 11 years.

"I have a few friends (there)," Solich said, smiling. "We actually have a lot of friends in Nebraska who tip us off."

The trait Solich likes best about Vick is his composure under fire.

"He has the kind of personality you like in a quarterback," he said. "Nothing seems to bother him. He'll have a bad play and move on."

There was no panic in Vick's eyes when Solich told him he would start.

"I thought he had an excellent game," Solich said. "I don't think anyone knew what to expect. I don't think Derrius knew what to expect."

Solich said there were three options with Tettleton:

1. Hold him out.
2. Start him and see what happened.
3. Give him some snaps in the second half.

"All week he said, 'This is going to come' for me," Solich said. "He tried to do his thing in pre-game, but it didn't happen for him."

It wasn't a one-man show on offense. Tailback Beau Blankenship ran for 109 yards and a touchdown on 25 carries, and Foster caught six passes for 69 yards and two touchdowns.

The game was so one-sided that third- and fourth-team players played in the fourth quarter.

When they play against fellow Football Championship Series teams, the Spartans (2-2) are a match for most teams in the country. In 2011, they won nine games, won the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference championship and qualified for the playoffs.

Midway through the first quarter, though, it was clear Norfolk State again would be in way over its head playing against a Division I team. Last season, it lost 55-12 to West Virginia.

It has lost all five games against Division I teams dating to 2007.

The trip from Virginia was not a total loss for Norfolk State. In fact, it was a capital gain. It earned \$275,000 for the date.



Bobcats roll Spartans in Vick's first start, 44-10

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 22, 2012

Told just moments before the start that he would be starting in place of the injured Tyler Tettleton, Ohio redshirt freshman Derrius Vick admitted to having some nervousness.

But once the game started, it was clear who was overwhelmed.

And it wasn't Vick, or the Bobcats.

Ohio steamrolled visiting Norfolk State, 44-10, Saturday afternoon inside Peden Stadium. The sixth-largest crowd in stadium history, 23,673, watched as the Bobcats advanced to 4-0 for the first time since 1976.

"Having that start, we want to keep it going," said Ohio RB Beau Blankenship, who punched out his fourth-straight 100-yard game with 109 yards on 25 carries. "We have that mentality that every game we play, we want to win. We feel like we're going to win.

"We're in a good spot, we just have to keep executing."

The Bobcats followed the lead of Vick, who stepped into Tettleton's place without the offense missing a beat. Tettleton was a game-time decision, but didn't feel comfortable after going through pregame warmups. Ohio head coach Frank Solich said the team debated whether to start Tettleton or sit the junior QB; Tettleton is battling an injury on the right side of his abdomen.

"(Tettleton) went out and tried to do things in pregame. He was not able to do things in the manner that he was hoping to do it," Solich said. "That pretty much solved it for us right there."

Vick took care of things from there. He completed 14 of 20 passes for 199 yards and four touchdowns. His second pass of the day was a 10-yard touchdown toss to WR Donte Foster in the right corner of the end zone.

Vick was sharp early, and helped Ohio leap out to a 24-0 lead by the end of the first quarter.

"Knowing that you're going in, you don't want to mess up and be that guy. It was just executing and doing what I could control. That's what I was mainly focused on," Vick said.

Ohio finished with a season-low 378 yards and 68 plays. The Bobcats were just 3 of 15 on third downs. But a lot of those issues came later. The Bobcats subbed extensively early in the third quarter; Ohio led 44-0 with more than five minutes left in the third quarter.

Vick earned praise from his coach, and wideout Foster.

"It was outstanding. I think he really came in there with a lot of confidence. (Vick) really stepped up to the plate and delivered," said Foster, who finished with a team-high five catches for 69 yards and two touchdowns.

"It really didn't (feel any different). (Vick) got to the line and he executed," Foster added. "He threw the ball great."

Solich thought Vick would shine when given his chance, but now knows he has a capable backup if Tettleton is forced to sit again.

"I don't know if anybody knew quite what to expect. I don't think Derrius did," Solich said. "We do know that he has one of those personalities where he handles things very well. He doesn't get overly excited about anything. He's kind of like Tyler (Tettleton) in that regard.

"It was crucial in terms of preparing him for what may happen this year. He's got confidence right now," the coach continued. "We can spell Tyler now when we want to and feel pretty good about things."

The Spartans (2-2), an FCS program that took a \$275,000 payday to play in Athens, were out of it from the start. Norfolk State was penalized for having two players wearing the same number on the field at the same time during the opening kickoff.

It was all downhill from there. The Spartans fumbled away the ball on their first play from scrimmage, and had five turnovers overall.

Norfolk State finished with 241 total yards, but was also flagged 11 times for 96 yards.

Blankenship scored on a 24-yard pass from Vick, and on a two-yard dive in the first quarter. In between, Matt Weller booted a 49-yard field goal.

Vick dialed in a 15-yard touchdown pass to Jordan Thompson midway through the second quarter. Weller's 40-yard field goal just two seconds before halftime put Ohio up 34-0.

In the third, Foster hauled in a 13-yard touchdown pass from Vick and Weller added a 31-yard field goal.

The Bobcats never let the thought of an upset enter anyone's head.

"Anybody can win on any given day. And there's been a bunch of upsets this year with different I-AAs and Division I. You don't want to give any team life early," Ohio linebacker Keith Moore said. "It's always good to keep the gas pedal on them."

Norfolk State avoided the shutout with Randy Maynes' 7-yard score with 4:28 to go. Kicker Everett Goldberg added a 42-yard field goal with 33 seconds remaining.

The game slowed to crawl in the second half, with penalties becoming the dominant theme after Ohio pulled the first string.

"This game was kind of a tale of two halves. I thought we executed and played well in the first half. And then in the second half we really substituted early," Solich said.

Ohio begins Mid-American Conference play next week with a road trip to UMass. Start time from Gillette Stadium is set for 3:30 p.m.

THE PLAIN DEALER

Ohio Bobcats could run the table: Doug Lesmerises' college football insider

Doug Lesmerises

Cleveland Plain Dealer - Sept. 24, 2012

Columbus -- Twenty-seven major college football teams remain undefeated.

You can arrange them by conference: Big 12 (7); SEC (6); Pac-12 (3); Big East (3); Big Ten (3); WAC (2); ACC (1); MAC (1); and Notre Dame.

You can arrange them by state: Texas (five, Texas, Texas Tech, TCU, Baylor, Texas-San Antonio); Ohio (three, Ohio State, Ohio, Cincinnati); Florida (two, Florida State, Florida); Oregon (two, Oregon, Oregon State) and Louisiana (two, LSU, Louisiana Tech) and 13 states with one team.

Or you can arrange them by the teams most likely to keep a zero in the loss column.

And Ohio University is right at the top of that list.

This isn't the first time this opinion has been expressed -- Sports Illustrated called for the Bobcats to go undefeated in the pre-season. Ohio already has its BCS win, 24-14 over Penn State, and its close call against a rival, 27-24 over Marshall.

But considering that the Mid-American Conference won four games against BCS teams over the weekend, with Northern Illinois beating Kansas, Ball State beating South Florida, Western Michigan beating Connecticut and Central Michigan beating Iowa, the conference schedule won't be a cakewalk.

Far from it.

If the Bobcats get to 10-0, a primetime visit to Ball State on Wednesday, Nov. 14, would have a lot of eyes on it. The Cardinals already have wins over Indiana and South Florida, with their only loss to Clemson. Heck, if Ball State keeps winning, it could have a lot on the line that night.

Remember, any team in the top 12 of the final BCS standings must get a bid to a BCS game. Or, any team in the top 16 gets in if one of the automatic BCS champs is ranked below it. So, for instance, a lousy Big Ten or Big East champ could be Ohio's best friend. And typical BCS busters Boise State and Utah already are out of the picture, because the Broncos aren't very good and the Utes are now in the Pac-12.

That rule applies only to the highest-ranked non-BCS team, though. So the real problem for 4-0 Ohio could be 3-0 Louisiana Tech, which destroyed Illinois over the weekend. The Bulldogs have games left with Virginia and Texas A&M in addition to their Western Athletic Conference schedule.

The Bobcats got 40 points in the AP poll while Louisiana Tech got seven, and I ranked the Bobcats 24th on my ballot. But in the coaches poll, which counts in the BCS standings, Louisiana Tech has a 28-13 lead in points.

Of course, some coaches may have gotten Louisiana Tech confused with LSU, because the coaches have proven a lot of them fill out their ballots blindfolded.

The previous MAC team to really challenge for a BCS berth was Ball State in 2008. The Cardinals got as high as No. 12 in the BCS standings that season before losing to Buffalo in the MAC championship. In 2003, after losing to Iowa to open the season, Miami of Ohio finished No. 11 in the final BCS standings when the rules to qualify for BCS games weren't the same.

I think an undefeated Ohio team would wind up between No. 10 and No. 15 in the final BCS standings, but every shred of credit the MAC can gain from these nonconference wins helps. The Bobcats could get higher. But the top 12 would be all that's needed.

Around the rest of the undefeated teams, Ohio State has too many flaws to make a 12-0 run, even in the even more flawed Big Ten. The Southeastern Conference champ always has a chance to go without a loss, but I think Alabama will get a test from some team in the SEC East in the conference championship game.

Florida State, after pulling away from Clemson, has a good shot in the Atlantic Coast Conference, while the Big 12 has seven of its 10 teams without a loss, but it may have too much depth, and no truly elite team, to allow one program to emerge unscathed.

If Oregon and Alabama, or Florida State and Alabama, wind up in an undefeated matchup for the national title, it won't be a shock.

But remember that keeping that zero isn't easy. Though five teams finished the regular season undefeated in 2009, and three in 2010, LSU was the only team to do it through the regular season a year ago.

If there's just one team that does it this season, it just might be Ohio.



Tettleton's status uncertain for UMass

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 25, 2012

Most of the time, Tyler Tettleton is in total agreement with his head coach.

On Monday, however, his opinion differed — slightly — with that of Bobcat coach Frank Solich.

Ohio (4-0), off to its first 4-0 start in 36 years, will travel to Foxborough, Mass. for a 3:30 p.m. start against UMass (0-4) inside Gillette Stadium. During both his weekly appearance on the Mid-American Conference conference call and his own weekly local press conference, Solich indicated Tettleton would be questionable to make the start.

Tettleton, who had made 17 straight starts at QB for Ohio, sat out Saturday's win over Norfolk State with an undisclosed abdomen injury. It was topic No. 1 for Solich during all his media appearances on Monday.

Solich said Tettleton would sit out practices Monday and Tuesday, and then would attempt to get in some throws during Wednesday's practice. At that point, Solich said, a decision would likely be made.

"If he's to be ready enough to play, he has to get practicing by mid-week," Solich said on the conference call.

Tettleton suffered the abdomen injury on Sept. 8 against New Mexico State. He played through it in Ohio's win on Sept. 15 at Marshall, but was at decidedly less than 100 percent by the end of that game thanks to the injury and a bruised throwing hand he suffered against the Herd.

Tettleton differed with Solich on Monday about one thing. He said there's nothing questionable about him being ready to play Saturday. Asked to gauge how sure he was about being able to play, Tettleton didn't hesitate.

"I'm pretty confident," he said.

So, like 70 percent sure, 80 percent sure?

"Probably more like 100 percent sure," Tettleton replied. "I'm ready to get back, ready to get going."

Even if Tettleton is cleared to play, Solich didn't rule out the notion about possibly continuing to play backup Derrius Vick. Vick, a redshirt freshman, threw for 199 yards and four touchdowns as the starter on Saturday. There's no QB controversy, but finding spots to get Vick more time is something Ohio will mull over.

"Tyler has won so consistently for us and is such an experienced and really good quarterback that when he's operating at a high level it's tough to say 'OK, go sit on the bench for a couple series. We're going to try something else.' So you keep going with him," Solich explained.

"But, there may be times when it makes sense to utilize Derrius in some games. That will be something we'll look at game-by-game."

Depth tested

Ohio has more than Tettleton to keep an eye on this week. The Bobcats' depth will be tested at several spots.

For example, Ohio could be without a single healthy option among its opening day starting trio at wide receiver. Mario Dovell (leg) is already lost for the season, and Solich said on Monday that senior WR Tyler Futrell (shoulder) will miss Saturday's game at UMass. The third starter, junior Donte Foster, is playing with a damaged thumb.

There's more. The offensive line is looking at as many as four players missing this weekend. Backups Mike McQueen (ankle) and Matt Prichard (knee) will be out this week, and could miss several more games. Starting guards Eric Herman (back) and Vince Carlotta (neck) both missed practice Monday and will be watched closely this week.

Also out this week will be DE Tremayne Scott (foot), and RB Ryan Boykin (hamstring) is questionable.

Ohio has tried to build depth, and that's being tested now, Solich said.

"You have to have depth, and our depth is coming into play now," the coach said. "We've lost some really top-line players, a lot of them on the defensive end of it."

"I think we've built the depth within our program to give us a chance," Solich added. "At some point in time it has to level off and it has to stop, in terms of injuries."

Polling data

The Bobcats enjoyed their best week of the season, in terms of points gained, in both major national Top 25 polls this week.

In the Associated Press Top 25, Ohio checked in at No. 29 overall — the same rank the Bobcats held a week ago. However, Ohio picked up 40 points and appeared on 13 voter ballots this week. The 'Cats received 20 points and were on 11 ballots last week.

In the USA Today/Coaches Poll, Ohio was listed 37th overall with 13 points. The Bobcats jumped five spots, and more than doubled its point total from the prior week. After week 3, Ohio was tied for 42nd in the poll with just five points.

Solich said he's not concerned with his team's standing in any of the opinion polls, though he did acknowledge he's aware of Ohio's standing.

"It's brought to my attention. I do not look it up. I view it as nothing really at this point," Solich said.

"Obviously that would be an important step for our program to be able to get that done, to break into the Top 25," he added. "But, you know, that shouldn't happen right now. It'll possibly happen if we really take care of business. Again, that's just looking too far ahead for us."



Ohio relying on deep roster to weather slew of injuries

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Sept. 28, 2012

Injuries are a concern for every football team in every season.

The Bobcats, unsurprisingly, are dealing with more than their fair share currently. The hope is that the depth forged in the program over the past few years helps Ohio navigate some thinning ranks at a number of positions.

Depth was one of Frank Solich's primary concerns when he came to Athens eight years ago. He said it's one of the major keys to fielding a consistent winner.

"In order to do that, you have to have good athletes. You have to have depth, and our depth is coming into play right now," he said. "We've lost some really top-line players, a lot of them on the defensive end of it.

"To be able to overcome that you have to have depth within your program," he added. "I think we've built the depth within our program to give us a chance."

Ohio (4-0) will get another chance to show off that depth Saturday when the Bobcats travel to Foxborough, Mass. for their Mid-American Conference opener against UMass (0-4). On Tuesday, for example, Ohio had upwards of 18 scholarship players out of action for practice.

"It's a tough deal right now," said Ohio offensive coordinator Tim Albin.

The Bobcats have four, potentially five, front-line players already out for the season. Cornerbacks Travis Carrie and Jamil Shaw, both projected starters, played a combined eight snaps; both are done for the year because of shoulder injuries. Wide receivers Sebastian Smith (broken leg, fall camp) and Mario Dovell (broken leg, at Penn State) are also on the shelf until next season. Offensive guard Sam Johnson went down Tuesday with a broken ankle.

In addition to Dovell and Smith, wideouts Tyler Futrell (shoulder) and Landon Smith (neck) are doubtful for Saturday. It's stretched what was thought to be a deep position group to nearly razor-thin status.

"When we first came out we looked like we had a whole lot of depth at wide receiver. As guys go down, other guys have to step up," said junior Donte Foster.

Foster is Ohio's leading receiver, and should play, but even he isn't 100 percent. He's played the last two games with a damaged thumb; Foster suffered ligament damage in the digit in practice prior to the Marshall game on Sept. 15.

Thanks to a plastic sleeve that prevents the thumb from moving in a certain direction Foster is able to play. But, there are sacrifices too. Foster isn't supposed to catch any balls in practice.

"It's been pretty difficult," Foster explained. "Coach Solich told me not to catch the ball (in practice), told me to just run the routes. You have to fight that urge to go after the ball when it's coming at you."

Foster concentrates on one-handed catches with his fully healthy hand in practice. The one-armed approach won't work for junior defensive end Nic Barber. Barber missed all of fall camp and the first two games of the

season with a shoulder injury.

Since his return, at Marshall, Barber has garnered four tackles and 1.5 sacks in two games -- and become a starter. Barber is playing with the first team because regular starter Tremayne Scott is out for a few weeks as a result of a foot injury.

Barber said the season is at the point where most guys are fighting through some sort of injury. He's fresher than most, but it's what football is all about. The next guy in line has to step up.

"We're all banged up man. Neal (Huynh) has about six ice bags on him after every day," Barber said with a laugh. "It's hard not having Tremayne right now. He's a big part of our defense.

"But it's our job to step up and fill in," he added. "That's what you do."

Even the quarterback position hasn't been immune this season. Starter Tyler Tettleton missed the game last week with Norfolk State, and is questionable for the MAC opener. His replacement, redshirt freshman Derrius Vick shined in his debut as a starter on Saturday however. Vick tied an Ohio record, set by Cleve Bryant in 1968, with four touchdown passes against the Spartans.

Like the others, Vick said injuries happen. What matters is how the team rallies after one occurs, and can the next player in line do the job they're asked to do. So far, the Bobcats have met that challenge.

"This team, this year, just clicks," he said. "Whoever has been in, we've found a way to get things done."

Even the injured -- besides their own personal rehab -- have been doing their part. Carrie, for instance, has been a fixture at most practices and has tried to do his part to get Ohio's young corners up to speed. The fifth-year cornerback has been at every game so far, and takes his role as a team captain seriously.

Carrie may be hurt, but still a part of what the Bobcats are doing on game day. That's not always the case as most players find it hard to be around the action when they're unable to play.

"Travis has been great. He's still a vital member of the Unity Council. He's working directly with the corners," Solich said. "It's been great to see him want to contribute in any way that he can to help this football team. That just tells you about him, what kind of person he is and his attitude."

That 'team' attitude is something Solich hopes will help his team through this tough stretch of injuries. But even the coach acknowledges that at some point the Bobcats' luck in that regard has to change.

"It has to level off and it has to stop, in terms of the injuries," he said.

Football: Ohio will remain humble in game against Massachusetts

Nick Robbe

The Post - Sept. 28, 2012

When asked about his status for Saturday's game against Massachusetts, redshirt junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton's response was simple: He plans to be under center when the offense trots out onto the field at Gillette Stadium.

Whether Ohio coach Frank Solich will play his battered signal caller will likely not be known until the familiar No. 4 or the new No. 15 of redshirt freshman quarterback Derrius Vick enters the offensive huddle.

"(I'm) feeling better and ready for Saturday," Tettleton said. "It was a good week to sit out (against Norfolk State). Derrius did a great job filling in and getting us the win, especially for his first career start ... (I'm) just anxious and ready to get back this week."

Solich has noted Tettleton's competitiveness time and time again, but said that if there's a time to limit his action, it's this week against UMass, which is the worst in the Mid-American Conference in three of the four major offensive categories. The Minutemen are the penultimate team in rushing yards per game, averaging a pedestrian 113 yards.

UMass graduate student Michael Cox, who has run for 301 yards this season, leads the Minutemen's rushing attack. He ran for a season-best 188 yards and two touchdowns in last week's loss to Miami — UMass' first-ever MAC game.

The Minutemen's imperfect start could be attributed to a quarterback situation that is far from ideal.

Redshirt freshman quarterback Mike Wegzyn was thrust into the starting role when redshirt junior Kellen Pagel was sidelined indefinitely with post-concussion symptoms in August. Although Wegzyn has not thrown a touchdown pass this season, he has completed little more than half his passes and averages only 18 more yards through the air than Ohio redshirt junior running back Beau Blankenship does on the ground, Solich said any quarterback could be a threat against the Bobcats' embattled secondary.

"Their quarterback really can throw the ball; he'll try to pinpoint passes (and) he's not afraid to let the ball go," Solich said. "You're going to have to try to get some pressure on him to throw a few up (for grabs)."

UMass has lost to two teams that were beaten by MAC schools and also lost to Michigan lopsidedly, but Solich said they could benefit from a different environment Saturday at home.

"They've only played one game at home; I'm sure they'll be anxious to get home," Solich said. "Statistically it doesn't match up to the kind of football team I believe they are when you turn on the film."

Even though the Bobcats' record is the exact opposite of the Minutemen, the Bobcats will stick with their season mantra of not taking anything for granted when they step on the field Saturday.

"We throw the previous games out the window," Solich said. "The MAC will be a conference that every week you are going to have to play really well to get it done and I believe that's this one."

The Boston Globe

UMass faces an Ohio team that's on the map now

Frank Dell'Apa

The Boston Globe - Sept. 28, 2012

Ohio University's football team should not be confused with, compared with, or even mentioned in the same breath with Ohio State University. The teams' expectations and histories diverged a century ago, and Ohio is not contemplating a challenge to the Buckeyes for state supremacy.

But this season, both teams are off to 4-0 starts. And Ohio started the season with a 24-14 victory at Penn State.

"We're not at the level of their program by any stretch of the imagination," said Ohio coach Frank Solich. "No school in the MAC is. But that doesn't mean we can't make strides to elevate our program.

"That is what everyone is trying to do in the MAC. That's why you see the MAC getting better and better, why you see MAC schools lining up and beating teams. The conference is being elevated. Ohio State is dominant in the state, but there are a lot of good programs in Ohio."

The University of Massachusetts is getting an up-close look at those programs. The Minutemen lost to Miami of Ohio, 27-16, in their Mid-American Conference opener last week, and this Saturday they will meet Ohio at Gillette Stadium.

Ohio's ambitions have increased since Solich arrived in 2005. The Bobcats had four successive losing seasons from 2001-04 and went for a fifth in Solich's first year.

But in 2006, Ohio went 9-5, taking the MAC East championship — the first time it finished first in the conference since 1968 — and advancing to the GMAC Bowl. That was followed by 6-6 and 4-8 records.

Since 2009, Ohio has been winning regularly, advancing to three straight bowl games with records of 9-5, 8-5, and 10-4.

And Ohio has even been taking the field against Ohio State. The teams did not face each other from 1902 through 1999, except for a 1918 contest involving the Ohio State freshman team (listed as a 13-6 win for Ohio). Ohio State has won the two recent confrontations with the Bobcats, by scores of 26-14 in 2008 and 43-7 in 2010.

But the Bobcats know their place and they have become dominant there, winning the MAC East championship last year and compiling a 19-5 conference record over the last three seasons.

"We know what the MAC is all about," Solich said. "UMass is a great fit for our conference, and we expect a great ballgame.

"In terms of competition, you've got to be ready to play every week, and if you're not, you're not going to win. Our mind-set is to really prepare well, play well, and see what else transpires.

"UMass is well-coached. We've seen them on film and they have been impressive. They have played a tough schedule: three BCS schools, on the road against Miami, all their games away except one.

"I'm sure they'll be anxious to be get back on their home field. And we see it as a huge challenge and hope to play well.

"They've been up against very physical, talented teams. Coming off those games, obviously, if you don't sustain a lot of injuries, you can benefit. Even though the record may not show it, a team can benefit from those types of games and those experiences."

Among Ohio's few question marks has been the quarterback position. Starter Tyler Tettleton, son of former major league catcher Mickey Tettleton, missed the Bobcats' 44-10 win over Norfolk State last week with an undisclosed injury and his status has not been determined for Saturday.

Derrius Vick, a redshirt freshman, made his first start and went 14 for 20 with four touchdown passes against Norfolk State.

Solich said Tettleton participated in practice Wednesday and will likely be a game-time decision.

Part of Ohio's success can be traced to offensive precision. Tettleton was 66 for 99 without an interception in the opening three contests. The Bobcats' only turnovers have been two fumbles.

And much of the credit for the low turnover total goes to the quarterback.

"We utilize him in the running and passing game," Solich said of Tettleton. "Some plays are called for him, there are some reads for him. He handles the ball in both the running and passing game. He's a guy who can scramble and make plays when plays break down and protection breaks down, and that's the kind of quarterback that's best for us and fits what we want to do.

"We have not made changes [for Vick]. He's been running the offense in the spring camp and fall, all the practices this season. And now, he has a full game under his belt. We prepare the same with him or Tyler — no difference with one in or the other. He's expected to have the same number of plays, the same style of plays. They are similar in ability."

Tettleton passed for 3,302 yards and 28 touchdowns, plus running for 10 scores, last season. In the opener against Penn State, Tettleton rallied Ohio from a 14-3 halftime deficit, passing for two touchdowns and running for one in the second half. Tettleton went 31 of 41 for 324 yards passing in the game.

"That was a huge win for us in terms of our program, of taking steps with our program," Solich said. "When the coaches arrived here [eight] years ago, Ohio was not winning. And now we're on ESPN a lot with the contract with our conference, and being seen around the country by recruits and alumni.

Bobcats cut it close in road win against UMass

Nick Robbe

The Post - Sept. 29, 2012

Fireworks lit up the sky above Gillette Stadium after Ohio's 37-34 triumph against Massachusetts on Saturday, but both teams saw explosiveness on the field long before the game ended.

The Bobcats entered the game as heavy favorites against a winless Minutemen team that was averaging less than nine points per contest, but they were forced to scrape by to maintain their unblemished record (5-0, 1-0 Mid-American Conference).

UMass has seen marked improvement from week to week this season. In their inaugural Football Bowl Subdivision game, they were shut out and scored only a combined 20 points in their next two games.

UMass' defense had its struggles as well, most of which were a product of Ohio redshirt runningback Beau Blankenship's career-best offensive performance.

Blankenship tied the school record for carries in a single game (43) and the third-most rushing yards in a single game (269). He also chipped in two rushing touchdowns.

Ohio redshirt junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton made it clear he was not operating at 100 percent during the game, and Solich said after the game that Ohio's offense was limited because of the opposing defense's ability to key in on one aspect of the Bobcats' attack. However, the Minutemen were far from successful in containing Blankenship, who seemingly willed his way to an Ohio win.

"I'm just thankful to have (the) players I have around me. The offensive line did a great job opening up holes and receivers did a great job blocking downfield," Blankenship said. "I am just thankful we came out and got the win."

The Minutemen's offense was much more successful, though, stringing together 511 yards of offense — 40 yards more than its next-best showing and eight more than its opponents.

UMass redshirt freshman quarterback Mike Wegzyn did not have a passing touchdown heading into Saturday's game, but walked away with four against Ohio, as he took advantage of Ohio's depleted secondary. He converted 10 of 19 third-down opportunities, while braving Ohio's offensive line, which was in his face from start to finish.

UMass coach Charley Molnar said the Minutemen took a step in the right direction Saturday, but will have to draw upon more of the same to see success in the MAC.

"I tell the guys, 'You are a resilient bunch of guys and you have been knocked on the canvas already and you keep getting back up,'" he said. "That, I love about our group of guys."

Ohio relished the challenge of facing a new MAC opponent, which turned out to be much more stiff of a test than most anticipated heading into the game.

"They're going to be good here (in the MAC) in a couple of years," Tettleton said. "It's a good young team to go against and I'm excited we could come here to Gillette Stadium and get the win."



Sunk by Blankenship

John Connolly

Boston Herald - Sept. 30, 2012

FOXBORO — How close? Try thisclose.

Heavy underdog UMass gave Ohio University everything it could handle before succumbing, 37-34, in a hard-fought game played before a Gillette Stadium crowd of 8,321 yesterday. The loss kept UMass winless while Ohio moved out to a 5-0 start for the first time since the 1968 season.

UMass had no answer for Ohio tailback Beau Blankenship. The transfer from Iowa State carried the ball 44 times for 269 yards and two touchdowns. It marked the first time an opponent had rushed for over 200 yards against UMass since James Madison quarterback Rodney Landers did it in 2008.

UMass quarterback Mike Wegzyn had a stellar game, completing 27 of 51 passes for 373 yards and four touchdowns. UMass receivers Deion Walker (11 catches, 162 yards, TD) and Alan Williams (7-127, 3 TDs) also had career days.

UMass (0-5, 0-2 MAC) won the coin toss and deferred to the second half. The Minutemen defense forced Ohio to punt and Grant Venham uncorked a 55-yarder that backed UMass to its own 18.

The Minutemen produced a 12-play, 82-yard drive and took the lead on a 27-yard aerial from quarterback Wegzyn to Williams. With the score, UMass had a 7-0 lead — its first advantage of the season.

Ohio (5-0, 1-0 MAC) responded with quarterback Tyler Tettleton, the son of former major league catcher Mickey Tettleton, engineering a 16-play, 73-yard march, which culminated in a 27-yard field goal by Matt Weller with 4:26 left in the opening stanza.

UMass tacked on a 30-yard field goal by freshman Blake Lucas on its next possession to make it a 10-3 spread with 1:54 left in the quarter. The drive featured a Wegzyn 17-yard completion to Walker and a 30-yard rush by tailback Michael Cox.

Blankenship carried the ball five times during a 13-play, 70-yard drive before the Bobcats settled for a 24-yard field goal by Weller. That cut the deficit to 10-6 with 11:47 left before halftime.

The Bobcats made UMass punt and turned the ball over to the durable Blankenship, who gained 72 of 79 offensive yards on an eight-play Ohio drive. It finished with Tettleton finding tight end Troy Hill on a 1-yard scoring catch with 5:40 to go in the second to give Ohio its first lead of the day, 13-10.

Blankenship had 20 carries for 137 yards to that point, his fifth consecutive 100-yard rushing effort this season.

UMass, displaying great resiliency, and regained the lead at 17-13 when Wegzyn and Williams teamed up for a 50-yard scoring play.

The Bobcats kept their composure and put together a seven-play package in the closing two minutes of the first half and went back in front, 20-17, before intermission. Tettleton hit receiver Chase Cochran for a 41-yard score after UMass defender Antoine Tharpe missed on a leaping interception bid near the 15-yard line.

The Minutemen compiled 248 total offense yards and were successful on 7-of-10 third-down conversions while Ohio had 315 yards of offense while converting 7-of-11 on third-down chances in the opening half.

UMass went ahead on the opening possession of the third quarter, traveling 81 yards in 12 plays that consumed 4:06. Wegzyn tossed a 26-yard pass to Walker — the quarterback's career-best third TD pass and UMass was celebrating a 24-20 lead. On its next possession, Cox was hit by Corey Hastings and fumbled. Lorenzo Fisher picked up the football and returned 13 yards to the UMass 14.

Tharpe rushed in from the left to block a 33-yard field goal attempt by Weller with 9:06 left in the third. The Minutemen capitalized on the momentum-changer to drive to the Ohio 1 in 13 plays where the march stalled. Lucas came on to boot a 23-yard field goal and the UMass margin was seven points.



The Athens Messenger

Blankenship no worse for wear

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Oct. 1, 2012

Two days after tying a single-game Ohio record with 43 rushing attempts, Bobcat running back Beau Blankenship wasn't hobbled, gimpy or encased in protective wraps and ice.

Besides a thigh bruise, Ohio's burly, bowling-ball back said he couldn't feel better.

"Honestly I didn't feel too bad afterward I just have a few bruises here and there. Just the normal soreness," Blankenship said after Ohio's Monday practice at Peden Stadium.

"I really feel pretty good."

The junior from Norman, Oklahoma and the Bobcats as a whole both have plenty of reason to feel good. Ohio (5-0, 1-0 Mid-American Conference) remains undefeated and Blankenship is on a record-setting pace for production for a Bobcat rusher. He exploded for 269 yards on 43 carries in Ohio's win at UMass on Saturday.

Five weeks into the season, Blankenship leads the MAC and is second nationally with 757 rushing yards; he's already more than halfway to the Ohio single-season record of 1,434 yards (Kalvin McRae, 2007).

Blankenship, third in the nation with a tic more than 150 rushing yards per game, has been steady. He's second nationally with a whopping 156 attempts already this season. The Ohio single-season record there is 294 (McRae, 2007).

Blankenship's toughness, durability and dependability allow Ohio head coach Frank Solich to not feel guilty as he racks up carry after carry. Every running back wants the ball, but Blankenship is able to handle it.

"It's not rare to find players (who want the ball)," Solich said. "It's rare for them to be able to hold up and do it."

Blankenship is aware of his statistical standing thanks to friends and teammates. It's rewarding to be productive, he said, but the team's success remains the primary goal.

"Maybe a little bit," he said when asked if he feels vindicated with his recent success. "I just feel blessed to be in the position to get those yards. I always try to play with a chip on my shoulder. I'm not too worried about the stats or anything."

Solich is a tad concerned for his running back's long-term durability however. The coach said Monday that junior RB Ryan Boykin may be at 100 percent on Saturday and, if so, could be used to spell Blankenship. Boykin has battled a hamstring issue all season.

How much relief Blankenship gets remains to be seen, and if Ohio has to continue to lean on him, well, Solich is OK with that too.

"Everybody wants it. I've not known a running back that doesn't want a 100 carries in a game. But, they can't hold up health-wise in most cases in game after game after game of that.

"(Blankenship) seems to be able to be a guy who can do that," Solich said.

Roster notes

Blankenship may feel fine, but the same can't be said for the entirety of

Ohio's roster.

WR Tyler Futrell (shoulder) will miss his second straight game this week, while DE Tremayne Scott (foot) will sit for a third straight contest.

Backup offensive lineman Matt Prichard (knee) may be done for the season. Backup offensive tackle Mike McQueen (foot) is out of his walking boot but will still be sidelined, Solich said Monday.

Safety Thad Ingol (hamstring) is doubtful for the Buffalo game.

And there are several key questionables in the mix as well. DT Carl Jones got encouraging results from an MRI, Solich said, and may still suit up against UB. Starting FS Gerald Moore and MLB Keith Moore will miss practice time this week, but Solich did not rule either out as of Monday. The injuries to all three are undisclosed and happened during the game Saturday.

There is some good news, however. Boykin and QB Tyler Tettleton may both be at 100 percent by Saturday, the coach said. In addition, WR Landon Smith (neck) was able to return to practice Monday. Offensive guards Vince Carlotta and Eric Herman appear to be ready to go as well after some minor injuries last week.

Polling data

Ohio's win at Massachusetts didn't help the Bobcats in either of the major national polls.

The Bobcats remain one of just four teams outside of the power conferences who are still undefeated; Notre Dame, Louisiana Tech and UT-San Antonio are the others.

Ohio checked in at 34th overall in the latest Associated Press Top 25 Poll, and received 30 points. The Bobcats were 29th, with 40 points, in the Sept. 21 poll.

In the USA Today/Coaches Poll, Ohio was tied for 34th (with Michigan) this week with 11 points. The 'Cats also received 11 points in the Coaches' poll on Sept. 21.

The MAC has six coaches vote in the weekly coaches poll, including Solich. Other MAC voters include Pete Lembo (Ball State), Terry Bowden (Akron), Dave Doeren (Northern Illinois), Darrell Hazell (Kent State) and Matt Campbell (Toledo).

Not good enough

Blankenship had a monster game at UMass, but it wasn't enough to win MAC East Offensive Player of the Week honors. But he shouldn't feel bad; the winner made NCAA history.

Miami quarterback Zac Dysert won the MAC East player of the week honor. The senior set a MAC record for total offense (624 yards) in a single game, and became the first NCAA player in history to throw for more than 500 yards in a single game, while also rushing for more than 100 yards. Dysert, for good measure, set a school record with six touchdown passes.

Ohio DE Hasting honors wounded brother

Zac Jackson

Fox Sports Ohio - Oct. 3 2012

ATHENS, Ohio — On the day his brother was shot 10 times in Afghanistan, Ohio University defensive end Corey Hasting went to football practice.

That's actually about the fifth or sixth thing he did. Hasting knows the timeline better now, now that the mix of fear and sadness and sickness he initially felt are gone. After a series of the toughest phone calls and text messages he could ever imagine, he found himself alone in his room, alone with a million thoughts.

That's when he knew he needed to go to what was Ohio University's final spring practice of 2011.

"I couldn't be with my family," Hasting said. "But football, that's where my other family was. I needed them."

Scotty Hasting was an Army platoon leader in Afghanistan. On April 21, 2011, Scotty and another soldier entered a hut in a small village, metal detectors in hand. They were looking for Taliban soldiers they knew were in the area.

It was a setup.

Scotty Hasting took bullets in the shoulder, hip and leg. The bulletproof vest he was wearing prevented him from taking more and might have saved his life.

He was rescued, rushed to a local hospital, then life-flighted to a military hospital in Germany. Because his platoon had been in a "black period," it had been longer than usual since Scotty had talked to his family. In the hours after the shooting, his family knew very little about his condition.

At about 11:30 a.m. ET that morning, Corey got a text from his mother asking to give her a call. He replied that he was in class and would call her later. She demanded that he leave class and call immediately.

"I just knew," Corey said. "She was hysterical."

A little more than three frantic hours passed before anyone was able to reach his father, and Corey said sharing the news with his father was "one of the hardest things I ever did."

It was after that call that Corey felt very alone, sitting in his room thinking about all the games and all the wrestling matches and all the conversations he ever had with Scotty, who's about two-and-a-half years his elder. It was all the wondering and mind-wandering that led Corey to get in his truck and go to practice.

"Football has always been my thing," Corey said. "I knew if I just sat in my room that night I'd drive myself crazy."

Four days after the shooting, Scotty Hasting's family met him at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. Corey said he can't shake the image there of his brother "all drugged up, in body vacs to treat his wounds, couldn't move his arms or legs."

The whole family was there, but only Corey was in the room when Scotty took his first steps. The doctor on duty didn't see it coming, but Scotty was determined to get himself to the restroom.

So, he stood up and walked there.

"My family is the reason I got up and walked," Scotty said. "I've had amazing support. It's been incredibly hard, but I never planned on doing anything but pushing myself through it."

The timeline goes like this: Scotty and Cara Hasting got married on Dec. 30, 2010. A little less than four months later, Scotty was shot. In June 2011, after three years as a walk-on, Corey Hasting was put on full scholarship by Ohio University. In November 2011, Scotty was released from Walter Reed.

In April 2012, Scotty and Cara welcomed their second child.

Scotty Hasting is now back at Fort Riley in Kansas, working jobs he's able to work and "constantly" undergoing physical therapy for his leg and hand injuries. He's also a full-time fan of the Ohio University football team.

If an Ohio game broadcast is available via the Internet, Scotty finds a way to see it. When the Bobcats are on TV, Scotty doesn't miss a play.

Last October, Scotty was there when Corey and Ohio University played at Rutgers.

With Ohio at 5-0 this season, there are some really big games ahead.

"Corey is tearing it up this year," Scotty said. "I couldn't be prouder."

Scotty worries that he won't be employable in the short term when his military commitment ends. He sees things now in the bigger picture, though, and he believes he'll eventually be fine.

"He's handled it so well," Corey said. "He's open about it. He's given speeches about it. He understands it could have been a lot worse. As terrible as this is, he's turned it into a positive."

"It's crazy. Gives me chills."

Corey said he's learned to appreciate "all the little things in life" a little more than he used to. He says he no longer lets a bad day or bad play on the football field get to him, and he often wears his brother's military dog tags around his neck. He also has a necklace Scotty gave him before he went to Afghanistan.

They played "everything" together growing up. Corey said Scotty was the baseball player of the family, and Scotty said he knew Corey would "make it" as a football player long before he starred at Milford High School near Cincinnati.

Corey Hasting has 21 tackles, 1.5 sacks and 3.5 tackles for loss so far in his final football season. But the stat that means the most to him is that he's five-for-five in writing the words "4Him" in Scotty's honor on his cleats before each game.

"That," Scotty said, "means the world to me."



Bobcats look to survive Mack attack

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Oct. 3, 2012

Queried around lunch time on Monday, Ohio football coach Frank Solich admitted he wasn't entirely familiar with all the ins and outs of the Buffalo football roster.

But prior experience already told him everything he needed to know about one particular Bull.

Buffalo junior linebacker Khalil Mack was already on radar for Solich and the Bobcats, and for every team on the Bulls' schedule. The 6-foot-3, 245-pounder is a terror off the edge and has distinguished himself with two solid collegiate seasons.

This year, Mack has elevated his game to another level. He'll be a primary concern for the Ohio offense when the Bulls invade Peden Stadium for a 12 p.m. kick-off on Saturday.

"Yeah, yeah, we've seen him the last couple of years," Solich said, sounding just a touch like someone discussing an old nemesis.

And with good reason. Mack is averaging 8 tackles, 3.7 tackles for loss and 1.5 sacks per game this season. He was suspended for Buffalo's opener, and since then has been a thorn in the side of every offense the Bulls have faced. Mack leads all of Football Bowl Subdivision football in tackles for loss per game, and is tied for second nationally with 1.5 sacks per contest.

Built like a Lawrence Taylor clone, Mack is a walking turnover creator. He's set a Buffalo record with eight career forced fumbles. He finds opposing ball-carriers before they can leave their own backfield, and cuts down on a quarterback's ability to check to a second or third read.

And as Solich indicated, the Bobcats are well aware of the potential havoc Mack can inflict. In two career games against Ohio, Mack has 12 tackles, 1.5 sacks and 3.5 tackles for loss. In addition, he's forced a pair of fumbles on the Bobcats — including a big one in the Bulls' 38-37 win over Ohio last season.

Unlike then however, Ohio won't always know where Mack lines up. Mack was limited in his alignment in 2011; now he's being put in a variety of positions on the defensive side of the ball.

"They use him a little differently this year," Solich explained. "Last year, they were operating more out of a 4-3 front with him as a rush end.

"Now he's an outside (line)backer. At times he's up on the line of scrimmage where he can rush," he added. "They're utilizing him in a lot of ways this year."

And Mack, the current MAC East Defensive Player of the Week, isn't the only weapon in the Bulls' defensive arsenal. Junior defensive lineman Colby Way (6-4, 276) has posted 4.0 sacks this season, for instance. As a team, Buffalo leads the MAC in tackles for loss and sacks — the Bulls are fourth in the nation with 4.25 sacks per game.

"Those are two huge categories," Solich said.

Ohio handled the pressure well enough to put up 37 points on the Bulls last season, but Mack came up with the big play at the end. His sack and forced fumble preserved the Bulls' one-point lead in the final minute.

Establishing the running game will be critical, said Ohio quarterback

Tyler Tettleton. Tettleton said Mack and his cohorts left an impression last year.

"With Mack and (Steven) Means and Way, those guys are special. The only thing you can do is slow them down," he said. "With the guys up front, I feel like we have a good enough (offensive) line to do that.

"And getting the run going will help," Tettleton added. "Any time you can be balanced like that, and set up one or the other, it's always going to help."

Buffalo is getting impact plays defensively, but not turnovers. The Bulls have picked up one interception and no fumble recoveries this season; UB is -6 in turnover ratio and tied for last place in the MAC in the category.

And right now, the Bulls' offense hasn't been good enough to overcome that. Junior quarterback Alex Zordich is completing just 48 percent of his passes this season, and has four interceptions in his last two games. WR Alex Neutz leads the conference with six touchdown receptions, but hasn't been much of a factor of late.

Buffalo coach Jeff Quinn said Zordich will remain the starter this week, but if the offensive struggles continue then redshirt freshman Joe Licata may be called on.

Buffalo is also expected to play without starting fullback Boomer Brock this Saturday, and flanker Fred Lee has also been pronounced out.

However, Quinn is hopeful that RB Branden Oliver can return. Oliver is averaging 6.0 yards per carry, and has 426 yards in essentially two-and-a-half games this season. He's been out of action since suffering a leg injury on Sept. 19 in a loss to Kent State.

Oliver piled up 179 yards and three touchdowns in the Bulls' win over Ohio last season.

Solich, on Monday, wasn't sure of what to make of Oliver's backups but said it wouldn't change what the Bulls are about. Like its defense, the Buffalo offense will play physical football and try to own the line of scrimmage.

"I guess I can't give you that answer, but I know their philosophy," Solich said in answering the question about the Bulls' backup runners. "They got 300-pound linemen. They want big running backs, and strong running backs and tough running backs. (Quinn) is a very physical coach. They got a physical football team."



Ohio hopes to regain defensive edge against Buffalo

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Oct. 5, 2012

The Bobcats say they didn't learn a lesson in last week's closer-than-expected victory at the University of Massachusetts. After all, they already knew it.

"In the MAC, you have to come to play each and every week," junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton said.

If last Saturday's refresher course/scare against the Minutemen wasn't enough, today's opponent -- the Buffalo Bulls -- would be glad to offer Ohio another dose of reality.

The Bobcats (5-0, 1-0 Mid-American Conference) may be undefeated, but they'll be extra cautious against the Bulls (1-3, 0-1 MAC). After the near catastrophe in Foxborough, Ohio faces a team that beat them a year ago.

The Bulls clipped Ohio, 38-37, in Amherst, N.Y., in a game that head coach Frank Solich still has fresh in his mind. But it isn't revenge that will be trying the Bobcats today, it will be the desire to avoid what happened a year ago.

"We just look at trying to get football games won week after week. We look at things in terms of we pretty much got beat across the board," Solich said. "But we lost the turnover battle. We lost the sack battle. We lost the big and explosive play battle. We lost the red zone battle. And we lost the third down conversion battle. That's losing a lot of battles."

"We want to do much better than that."

Like a year ago, Ohio enters the game with injuries presenting a major hurdle. In 2011, Ohio was without, or lost during the game, a total of five defensive starters. The Bobcats today will be without starting defensive end Tremayne Scott, and could have three other starters -- DT Carl Jones, MLB Keith Moore and FS Gerald Moore -- sit out or playing a limited role because of more injuries.

There's nothing to do but deal with the circumstances given, senior DE Corey Hasting said.

"Next man up. Football is a weird game, you never know who is going to go down or what is going to happen," he said. "But everybody has to be ready to play. Young guys included."

"If it happens, it happens. We just have to be ready to overcome adversity as a team."

The Bulls have their own issues. QB Alex Zordich has been athletic (198 rushing yards, 5.2 yards per attempt), but inaccurate (48.5 percent completion rate). Zordich has four interceptions in his last two games alone.

Fullback Boomer Brock is expected to miss the game, as is flanker Fred Lee. WR Alex Nuetz has half the team's rushing yards and leads the MAC with six touchdown catches.

The Bulls' best weapon, RB Branden Oliver, is a question mark. He missed the Bulls' loss last weekend at Connecticut with a leg injury, but terrorized Ohio in 2011 with 179 rushing yards and three touchdowns.

Oliver has 426 yards this season in 2.5 games, while Ohio leads the MAC in rush defense by giving up just 94.0 yards per game and 3.3 yards per carry.

It's unknown whether Oliver will play, but Solich said UB's basic method of attack will not.

"Every team in the MAC, I think has an identity. And theirs is toughness. They like to run the ball from the offensive standpoint," the coach said. "They got 300-pound linemen. They want big running backs, and strong running backs and tough running backs. He's a very physical coach. They got a physical football team."

And should Ohio handle the run game, the focus will turn to the secondary; the Bobcats gave up nearly 400 yards passing through the air last week at UMass. Safety Xavier Hughes is out today, Gerald Moore may not play, and Ohio has three second-year players manning the two corner spots.

"It's a matter of coming up with plays," Moore said. "It's stuff we go over every day, but it's just not connecting right now."

Offensively, Ohio is in better shape. Tettleton is close to 100 percent, RB Ryan Boykin is finally ready to start sharing the load in the backfield, and WRs Tyler Futrell and Landon Smith are expected back after injury.

The Bobcats are second in the MAC in scoring (36.6 ppg) and third in total offense (472.6 yards per game) with Tettleton stitching together another terrific season -- 1,010 yards, 64.3 percent passing and nine touchdowns with no picks in four games.

Starting RB Beau Blankenship is second in the nation in rushing yards (757) and has posted five straight 100-yard games.

Buffalo is in the middle of the pack defensively in the the conference, but leads the MAC in tackles for loss (30) and sacks (17). LB Khalil Mack (4.5 sacks, 11 tfl) may be the best defensive player in the conference.

If Ohio's health or play on the defensive side doesn't hold up, it may come down to the offense winning another shootout. It's a prospect neither Hasting or Moore wants to think about right now.

"Especially after last week's game, we have something to prove," Moore said. "We want to get back on track to where we were at the beginning of the season."



The Athens Messenger

Ohio survives bruising Buffalo, goes to 6-0

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Oct. 6, 2012

It was a win only a mother — and perhaps the winning side — would love.

But at the end of the day, the Bobcats weren't about to apologize for improving to 6-0 with a sometimes ugly 38-31 win over visiting Buffalo in front of 20,044 inside Peden Stadium on Saturday afternoon.

"We were able to play well enough to win," Ohio coach Frank Solich said. "It's a bottom-line business. Wins are the bottom line."

The Bobcats ran their record to 6-0 on the season, and improved to 2-0 in Mid-American Conference. Ohio became the first FBS team in the country to become bowl eligible.

But how Ohio got to that bottom line left something to be desired. The Bobcats gave up a whopping 313 rushing yards, trailed 14-0 in the first quarter, yielded a stunning 30 first downs and were dominated by 11 minutes in time of possession.

Buffalo (1-4, 0-2 MAC) out played the Bobcats most of the day, with the exception of turnovers. Ohio finished +2 in TO ratio.

The Bulls averaged 5.6 yards per carry, and had two players — RB Devin Campbell (30 carries, 160 yards) and QB Alex Zordich (19-110) — break the 100-yard barrier.

"That's what we like to do, that's what we want to do," Solich said. "They were able to do that better to us, than we were to them. There's no question about that."

"It's very disheartening. In all my years of coaching, I've come to understand that if you have a football that can just run the ball on you, you got problems."

But despite those issues, the Bobcats rebounded with 24 straight points after a slow start, and led 38-24 with 5:56 remaining after a second fourth-quarter touchdown run by RB Ryan Boykin.

Ohio was down and besieged by a slew of injuries, but found a way to win.

"We're a pretty calm team. We don't really get out of whack on things when it doesn't go our way, when we face adversity," said senior WR Bakari Bussey, who netted a career-high eight catches for 77 yards. "I think that's probably our best attribute, we stay calm and poised."

RB Beau Blankenship was held under 100 yards for the first time this season — he finished with 86 yards on 25 carries — while Boykin added 64 yards and two scores on six tries. Quarterback Tyler Tettleton hit 14 of 26 passes for 183 yards and a touchdown — which moved him into a tie atop the Ohio record book for career TD passes (38).

But the offense was slow to start. The Bulls knifed through the Ohio defense early — they had 131 rushing yards in the first quarter alone — and led 14-0 after Campbell's early 3-yard scoring run and Zordich's 10-yard touchdown pass to Hughes.

Daz'mond Patterson then injected the 'Cats, and the home crowd, with some life. On the kickoff after Buffalo went up 14-0, Patterson took the ball on his goal line and a blazed up the field. Patterson was nearly untouched, and only had to juke the kicker, to race 100 yards for a momentum-changing touchdown.

"It was a spark for us, we started off kind of slow," Patterson, a true freshman, said. "It was great blocking actually. From what I remember, the only guy I had to make miss was the kicker. I just followed my blocks and it hit perfectly."

After that, the Bulls imploded. Buffalo had a three-and-out, then fumbled away the ball on the following two possessions.

Ohio took advantage. Blankenship scored on a 14-yard burst for a one-play scor-

ing drive after the first UB fumble, and tied it 14-14.

The Bulls' third fumble of the first half was a muffed punt. On the snap after that play, Tettleton hit Tyler Futrell in the left corner with a 15-yard touchdown pass; the Bobcats grabbed the 21-14 lead and never trailed again.

"We just held the course. We knew what we had to do and got it done," senior guard Eric Herman said.

Matt Weller's 45-yard field goal early in the third quarter stretched the lead out to 24-14.

But the Bulls stormed back. Alex Dennison, UB's wildcat quarterback, got the ball on a reverse and fired a 55-yard touchdown pass to Alex Neutz that sliced the lead to 24-21 shortly after the Weller field goal.

The Bulls tied it, 24-24, with 3:55 left in the third on Patrick Clarke's 30-yard field goal.

Ohio pulled away early in the fourth. Boykin capped an effective 11-play march with a 1-yard touchdown on the first play of the fourth quarter.

After the Bobcat defense forced two straight punts, Boykin made it a two-score advantage when he took a pitch to the right side, found a seam, and exploded for a 51-yard touchdown that gave Ohio a 38-24 lead with 5:56 to go.

"Coach says if the tight end goes out (blocks), you cut it straight up," Boykin explained. "I followed my guard and he took me to the promised land."

Buffalo cut it to 38-31 with just eight seconds left after Dennison scored on a one-yard keeper. But Ohio's Kendrick Davis gobbled up the ensuing onside kick to end it.

Ohio was out gained by 168 yards, never really came to grips with the Bulls running game, and had to deal with widespread injuries. Starting safety Gerald Moore (ankle) and leading receiver Donte Foster (back) were just two of several Bobcats who didn't suit up.

In addition, tight end Jordan Thompson — who made his 47th career start on Saturday — left the game with a leg injury in the third quarter. Solich indicated the injury was serious and could "probably be lost for the season."

The teams also combined for 17 penalties that covered 199 yards.

There was a lot to dislike, except the final outcome, for Solich.

"My personality doesn't allow me to enjoy this kind of game much. Too much of a perfectionist and I want everything to go right," he said.

But Solich wasn't going to feel bad about winning.

"To me, knowing what we face every time we step on the field in the MAC, knowing that we came through a physical non-conference, knowing all the injuries that we've had leading up to this point, I couldn't be more pleased in terms of winning this game and winning the games that we've won regardless of how we've won."



The Athens Messenger

Thompson lost for the season

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Oct. 8, 2012

Jordan Thompson has played his last down as a Bobcat.

Ohio University head football coach Frank Solich confirmed Monday that Thompson, a fifth-year senior tight end, suffered a torn knee ligament in the Bobcats' win over Buffalo on Saturday. Thompson tore his MCL and, according to Solich, it's "90 percent likely" he also suffered a tear to his ACL.

Thompson will undergo season-ending surgery in the near future. The redshirt senior, who has already earned his undergrad degree, is not eligible to apply for a sixth-year from the NCAA; he has already competed in more than 30 percent of Ohio's game this season and has not lost two seasons for reasons beyond his control.

A two-time team captain, Thompson has been a rock for Ohio the past four seasons. He had started 47 straight games. He had eight catches for 95 yards this season, and has 60 catches for 666 yards and five touchdowns in his career.

Solich believes Ohio will be able to get by with the emergence of the team's other top three tight ends — juniors Troy Hill and Tyler Knight, and sophomore Derek Roback. Hill has nine catches for 117 yards and two touchdowns this season, Roback has one catch for 46 yards.

"We got guys who will have to take more snaps now because of Jordan being out and I think they're capable guys," Solich said. The coach also said he doesn't believe the injury will impact Ohio's ability to line up in two tight end sets, which has become a staple this season.

Ohio will, however, miss all the intangibles Thompson brought to the table. He was an every-down tight end — able to both block at a high level, and run short and deep routes — and been a picture-perfect model of what a scholar-athlete should be during his time in Athens.

"He's a guy who's really grounded," Solich said. "You just can't get a better guy."

Thompson's injury is just the latest tough knock against the Bobcats this season. The tight end will be the seventh player since the start of August who has been lost for the season due to injury.

In addition, Solich said Monday that DE Tremayne Scott, FS Xavier Hughes, and OL Mike McQueen are all out for Saturday's game against Akron. Another half-dozen Bobcats are all questionable for the game including starters Donte Foster (WR) and Gerald Moore (safety).

"We can't keep getting the types of injuries we're getting and have it go the rest of the season that way, and still feel that any amount of depth is going to suffice," the coach said.

"Things seem to have a tendency of evening out. So we're ready for a stretch of no injuries. Hopefully that occurs," he said.

Polling data

The Bobcats are on the cusp of finding themselves ranked.

On Sunday, Ohio checked in at No. 26 in the Associated Press Top 25 poll with 79 points. Michigan, with 82 points, was at No. 25. The 79 points in the poll were a season high for the Bobcats.

In the USA TODAY/Coaches Poll, Ohio was No. 31 overall with a season-best total of 23 points. Iowa State was No. 25 in the coaches poll with 73 points.

In the first Harris Interactive College Football Poll of the 2012 season, also released Sunday, Ohio came in at 28th overall with 108 points. Iowa State was 25th in the Harris Poll with 129 points. The Harris Poll is one of the components the Bowl Championship Series uses to determine its No. 1 vs. No. 2 matchup.

Solich isn't ready to talk about polls yet, however. He expressed doubts that a win over Akron would be enough to get Ohio into the top 25, and doesn't want a possible poll appearance to become a focus for his team.

"(Ohio's players) are pretty bright guys, they're not going to talk like that around me anyway," he joked.

"Our focus has never been that," Solich continued. "We understand what it is going to take for us to continue to be successful. We don't want to be a flash in the pan. We want to be able to do things consistently. In order to do that, you can't be looking that far down the road."

Another winner

True freshman running back Daz'mond Patterson was named the MAC East Special Teams Player of the Week on Monday. Patterson notched a 100-yard kick-off return touchdown on Saturday against Buffalo.

The return tied the Ohio record as the longest in program history and was the first kick-off return score for the Bobcats since 2009. Patterson finished the day with 126 kickoff return yards.

Patterson is the third Ohio player to win one of the weekly MAC awards this season; it's the fifth time a Bobcat has earned such an honor in 2012. QB Tyler Tettleton is a two-time winner of the MAC East offensive player award, and kicker Matt Weller has also picked up two special teams player of the week awards this fall.

Carries have been tough to come by for Patterson, currently slotted behind Beau Blankenship and Ryan Boykin in the backfield, but Solich said he has all the tools to be successful.

"He's got skill. He's got quickness. He's got good hands. He's got good toughness," the coach noted. "All that comes back to him having a chance to be a really good back as he continues to develop in the system."



Lopresti: Unbeaten Ohio U could enter top 25

Mike Lopresti

USA Today - Oct. 13, 2012

ATHENS, Ohio – Another Saturday, another victory for unbeaten Ohio University, and 45 minutes after the game, the defensive end had already heard from his role model.

The brother who was shot 10 times in Afghanistan.

"Hell of a nice job Bro. 7-0," was Scotty Hasting's text to Corey Hasting, sent from Fort Riley in Kansas, where the recovery goes on.

And so here was Corey Hasting, fresh from the Bobcats' locker room after a 34-28 win against Akron, wearing his brother's Army dog tags that never leave him.

"He's with me all the time," Hasting said of his brother. "I write 'For him' on my cleats. Like today, I had a really bad play. I looked down at my cleats and thought, 'I've got to pick it up. This is for Scotty.'"

Just one of the feel-good stories going at the moment for Ohio. You remember the Bobcats. The team that stole the show back on Sept. 1 when the college football world tuned in to see Penn State get back to playing football. Ohio outscored the Nittany Lions 21-0 in the second half that day in Happy Valley to win 24-14, then promptly disappeared from national notice.

But the Bobcats are still around, 7-0 for the first time since 1968, and on the fringe of being voted into the rankings, which rarely happens for the Mid-American Conference, no matter how many big boys its members upset. The ripples of that Saturday at Penn State still follow Ohio.

"We had a chance to maybe show people the caliber of football we play," coach Frank Solich said. "I think that opened up a fair number of people's eyes in terms of what we have here. When we're really clicking, we're pretty good."

To be honest, that remains the only quality win on Ohio's resume. The other six Bobcat victims own a combined record of 7-30, and four of the Ohio victories have been by a touchdown or less. So there is still much to prove before you could make an unshakable case for the top 25 vote.

"That's not on our radar screen," Solich said. "Obviously, if we continue to win, and win by enough numbers and people feel that we've accomplished enough to put us there, we'll probably be there. But right now, we're not there."

But there are lots of things to like about them. Hasting's story for example.

He still remembers the time and date – April 21, 2011, sitting in class at 11:30 a.m. – when the text came from his mother, Rhonda, asking to call. He texted back that he'd call just after class. No, she answered. Now.

"I knew right away what it was," he said Saturday. "When I called, she was crying hysterically. She said, 'Scotty's been shot. All we know is he's in serious condition.'"

His brother, Army platoon leader, had gone on patrol into a hut in Afghanistan, where an ambush was waiting, and been shot 14 times – although four bullets hit his vest. The other 10 hit arms and legs and shoulders.

The worst day of his life, Corey Hasting says now.

"I went back to my dorm room and just sat there and started thinking. What did I say last to him? Did I tell him I loved him? Was I a good brother?"

But the news got brighter. His brother survived, although a long recovery was ahead. Hasting was there at Walter Reed Medical Center when his brother took his first steps.

He marveled at his brother's ability to cope and go on with life – becoming a father just last spring, one year after he walked into that hut.

Meanwhile, Hasting, who walked on at Ohio, was awarded a scholarship last season. This season, he starts for an unbeaten team. There is a good luck text from his brother before every game, congratulations after. And a brotherly give-and-take whenever Hasting dares mention the aches and pains of football.

"I'll tell him my foot hurts," Hasting said. "And he'll say, 'I was shot 10 times.'"

There is more to Ohio. Quarterback Tyler Tettleton, who grew up in Norman, Okla., not far from where the Sooners roam, threw his 39th and 40th touchdown passes against Akron to become the school's career leader, and he is only a junior.

"I never imagined or dreamed we could be ranked, but that shows the kind of program we've built," he said. "Everybody asked me for reasons why I came here. It was the direction they were headed, and what they were about."

Then there is Solich. What they had here Saturday was the How-Things-Change Bowl.

Solich coaching for Ohio, Terry Bowden for Akron. Once upon a time, Solich took Nebraska into the BCS national championship game against Miami in the 2001 season. Bowden led Auburn to a perfect 11-0 record in 1993.

But neither lived happily ever after. So two men who once worked in the brightest lights of college football ended up together Saturday in the hills of southeastern Ohio. The long and winding road.

This is not the old days at Lincoln for Solich, with stands full of red sweaters rising to the sky. Look out the north end of Peden Stadium, and you get trees. Look out there south end, there is the Hocking River, and traffic curving past on the highway.

But he has found a home here, doing things for eight years the Bobcats never did before. Play in bowl games, to start with. Even won one of them.

"I feel very good for the players that have put us in this position," he said. "The players that started with us eight years ago when we were able to take tiny steps, to where we started taking bigger steps, and now we're taking pretty good steps."

Tougher MAC games are ahead, and we'll find out more if Ohio can stay perfect and deserves a top 25 vacancy. One date certain to be special is the last home game on Nov. 7 against Bowling Green.

Senior Night for Hasting. His brother will be here.



The Athens Messenger

Bobcats land spot in AP's top 25

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Oct. 15, 2012

Ohio University football coach Frank Solich has a whole new angle to use when recruiting this week.

'Come play for the Bobcats, and play for a top 25 program,' he might pitch to a potential player. And Solich would be telling the god-honest truth.

For the first time in 44 years, Ohio finds itself among the nation's elite in the most prestigious poll in the country. On Sunday, the Bobcats found out they had landed at No. 25 in the latest Associated Press top 25 poll. It is the first time Ohio has been ranked since the final regular-season poll in 1968.

The Bobcats (7-0) are officially on the nation's college football radar now.

"I couldn't be happier for our team," said head coach Frank Solich. "Breaking into the Top 25 is a great accomplishment, but we still have a long ways to go toward accomplishing all the things we set out to do at the start of the season."

Ohio (3-0 in the Mid-American Conference) just started its first and only bye week of the season. The Bobcats won't play again until Oct. 27 at Miami. With the break, the players are getting some needed time off while Solich and his staff are hitting the road to continue to never-ending pursuit of the next crop of players via recruiting.

The latest bit of good news for Ohio is sure to be spread to high schoolers far and wide, Solich said.

"Whenever something negative happens, it get around pretty quickly," Solich said. "We'll make sure this gets out just as quickly, and it should help in recruiting."

The notoriety of a national ranking, however, will do nothing to lessen the target on the Bobcats' backs. Ohio was the preseason pick to win the MAC and has already seen several conference opponents elevate their level of play in an attempt to knock off the favorite.

That kind of pressure will only increase moving forward. The ranking is the latest bit of national exposure for Ohio, which has also received positive pieces of late in The Wall Street Journal, Sports Illustrated and USA Today.

"We've been talking to our players about that stuff all season," Solich said. "When you start getting national exposure like we have been, that kind of thing just keeps getting bigger.

"It comes with winning football games. We can accept that."

While Ohio was left off the first national polls of the season, the Bobcats have been receiving votes in both the AP and USA Today/Coaches polls since scoring a 24-14 win at Penn State in the season opener. Ohio has steadily climbed in the AP poll, but has seen fluctuations in its standing in the coaches poll.

However, on Sunday Ohio scored a season-high 54 points and came in a season-high 27th (tied with Texas) in the Coaches Poll.

In the initial Bowl Championship Series standings, which were released Sunday night and used to determine which teams play for the national championship, Ohio also came in 27th.

Ohio received 104 points in the AP poll to come in at No. 25. The Bobcats trail Boise State (133 points) for the 24th spot, and edged out both Arizona State (92) and TCU (88) for the 25th spot.

Ohio is one of just 12 undefeated teams left in all of FBS football. Three of them reside in the state of Ohio, as both Ohio State and Cincinnati are undefeated and also in the AP Top 25.

It wasn't exactly a goal to get ranked this season for the Bobcats, but as they inched

closer to the top 25 week by week they couldn't help but think about it, said junior RB Ryan Boykin after the game Saturday.

"It wouldn't hurt being ranked," he said. "I do think it's in the back of our mind a little bit. Everybody wants to be ranked.

"I don't think we let it affect us and what we do on the field," he added. "When we're on the field, it's strictly business."

Wait and see

Solich wasn't immediately sure after Ohio's win Saturday what kind of additional punishment senior DT Carl Jones may face from the conference office.

Jones, a starter, was ejected from Saturday's game after he allegedly 'took a swing' at an Akron player following the fourth play from scrimmage in the third quarter.

"We'll be contacted by the MAC office, I'm sure. I'll have to read through the rule book to see how that will work," Solich said.

The coach, however, had no issue with the action taken against his player during the game.

"I saw what happened and he did take a swing and slap a guy in the helmet. It was a correct call," Solich said. "I think both guys were kind of going at it a little bit. But he certainly deserved the penalty that he received."

Weller lands another award

For the third time this season, and the eighth time in his career, Ohio senior place kicker Matt Weller was named MAC East Special Teams Player of the Week.

Weller was named the recipient on Monday after he kicked home 10 points in Ohio's 34-28 win over Akron on Saturday. Weller connected on all four of his PAT kicks, and converted field goals of 44 and 29 yards in the win. He also boomed five touchbacks on seven kickoffs.

In 48 career games, Weller has scored 363 points with 150 PATs and 71 made field goals. On Saturday, Weller moved past former Toledo RB Chester Taylor for fourth place in the all-time MAC scoring list.

Football: Blankenship approaches McRae's 1,000 rushing yard legacy

Nick Robbe

The Post - Oct. 17, 2012

When former Ohio running back Calvin McRae finished his career at Ohio in 2007, his goal was to leave behind a legacy for future running backs. Until recently, it's a legacy that has yet to be fulfilled.

McRae, who was the last Bobcat running back to rush for more than 1,000 yards in a season, was never on the same roster as current backfield dynamo Beau Blankenship, a redshirt junior, but is more than pleased to see him have an opportunity to pass his single-season rushing record.

"It gets me upset. I wanted to start something that, when I left, could be carried on throughout the years," said McRae, who rushed for more than 1,000 yards in sophomore, junior and senior seasons. "I don't think we've had an 1,000 yard back since I left. So to see Beau have this kind of season and getting a chance to break that record, I think it's tremendous."

Through six games, Blankenship has racked up 951 yards — 274 more than McRae's pace at the regular season's halfway mark. Ohio offensive coordinator and running backs coach Tim Albin's estimation, Blankenship won't slow down, giving him the opportunity to potentially eclipse McRae's single-season record of 1,434 yards on the ground.

Former Ohio running backs Chris Garrett, Vince Davidson and Donte Harden could not accomplish the feat while clad in the green and white, but were also plagued by injuries that kept them out of games. Blankenship has been relatively healthy in his two active seasons with the Bobcats.

"We've had guys at the tailback spot, in general, (that) have produced over 1,000 yards, but we haven't had one guy show the durability and play every down," Albin said. "(Blankenship) has shown he can run the ball, pass protect and catch. I really like his start to the season, and I see of lot the same characteristics (of McRae) in Beau."

McRae echoed Albin's praise when talking about the durability Blankenship has shown so far this season.

"He's a really good back, he's a tough runner who gets yards after contact," McRae said. "He's an every down back — that's one of things I prided myself on, and I think that's one of the things that coach Albin and coach Solich look for in a running back."

The single season rushing record is a nice reward to focus on down the road, but Blankenship said individual accolades are far off his radar.

"People ask me about the record and tell me about it, but I'm not focused on it," Blankenship said. "It'd be nice to have, but I am not worried about it. As long as we keep winning, it doesn't really matter."

Ohio's offensive attack is based upon the running game and the read option scheme, so Albin said having a big-yardage back is not as chief of a concern as seeing the same guy in the backfield every game. Albin said

Blankenship has been a model of consistency, and the numbers back him up, as he has averages 4.8 yards per carry.

With the season's second half almost underway, Blankenship needs to average less than 100 yards per game to break McRae's rushing record.



The Athens Messenger

Corey's story: Ohio senior plays each day with his brother in his heart

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Oct. 20, 2012

It's easier now, the talking about it part anyway.

That's not to say anything that Corey Hasting feels when talking about his brother, Scotty, is easy however. Hasting, a senior defensive end for the Ohio University football team, had his life turned on its head about 18 months ago.

Forget about grinding through spring football practice. Forget about lining up more gigs for his burgeoning DJ career. Forget about enjoying his upcoming college graduation.

On that late April morning in 2011 Hasting learned that his brother had been shot — 10 times — while serving as an Army platoon leader in Afghanistan. Scotty Hasting was hit in the shoulder, the hip, the leg. If not for the bulletproof vest he was wearing, he likely would have died on April 21, 2011.

After a frantic call from his mother, Corey had his world view drastically changed.

"It definitely humbles you. You get so fixed in on what this is I need to do this day, to get better at this and that," Corey Hasting explained. "And then God throws you a curve ball.

"No one ever plans for those things. What do I do now? You're just dumbfounded," he continued. "You just have to keep your faith and hope He'll take care of it."

After the ambush, Scotty Hasting was rescued, sent to a local hospital and then air-lifted to a military hospital in Germany. Four days after the shooting, the Hasting family gathered at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. There, Corey finally got to see his brother — roughly 2.5 years older. He said it was nearly as hard as hearing about the shooting.

"That's when I think about what could have happened," Corey Hasting said. "I got emotional. I still get emotional whenever I see him.

"He's showing off his scars. It was so close...What if I couldn't see him again? But he's still here and that's all that matters."

Scotty survived the shooting. He was released from Walter Reed in November 2011.

Scotty is currently back at Fort Riley in Kansas. He's able to work some, and is going through physical therapy for his injuries. The family doesn't know what the future holds after Scotty's term of enlistment ends, but they're optimistic.

"The more and more he continued to progress and the more and more he continued to get healthy, the more and more optimistic we get," Corey Hasting said. "We understand it's going to be a long road. It's just great having him back."

The ordeal came at the beginning of a whirlwind 18 months for Hasting. Just two months after the shooting, Hasting was put on full scholarship by Ohio. The Bobcats won the MAC East and the program's first ever bowl game in 2011. His brother was released from the hospital last November. During the off-season, Hasting continued to develop his DJ career.

This season, Corey Hasting is a full-time starter and perhaps the most consistent player on Ohio's defensive line. The Bobcats are undefeated at 7-0 and are ranked in the nation's top 25 for the first time in 44 years.

And to top it all off, Scotty Hasting should be in Athens for Corey's Senior Night next month.

"A roller coaster man," Corey Hasting said. "It's been a wild ride, and a great ride."

And he means it. Corey tries not to see the negative in regards to his brother's

shooting. All he sees is the positive; his brother is still alive.

That's why he's not shy anymore in talking about the incident, the struggle involved afterward and how it felt to go through the whole ordeal.

Corey is proud of his brother. He knows there are others who have fought through, or are fighting through the same emotional struggle.

He doesn't tell his story for himself, though he admits it does help sort through his own emotions. He tells it because of his appreciation for all the service men and women serving overseas.

"Anything I can do to get his name out here...to get him and guys like him the recognition they deserve," Corey Hasting said. "Most people don't really know the people that are fighting over there. Maybe they'll care about those guys just a little more."

Before every game this season, Hasting writes in black marker on his cleats the words "4 him." It's a reminder of the struggle his brother is going through, and who he is playing for.

"Whenever I get down about a play or a missed tackle or whatever, I just look down and there it is," Corey Hasting said. "It keeps me going.

"It's more of a head thing. It feels like he's there with me."

Scotty hasn't been to Athens to see Corey play. He hasn't seen Corey play in person since the Rutgers game in 2011. Corey is thankful he's going to get the chance.

"This whole thing, it's still a blessing," Corey said. "It could have been so much worse.

"We still have him and that's all that matters."

Can a MAC team become a mid-major power?

Mark Znidar

Columbus Dispatch - Oct. 23, 2012

In a little more than 1 1/2 seasons, the Mid-American Conference has morphed from being a conference that pulled off the occasional eye-opening upset against a major-college team to one that has won four bowl games and has elbowed its way into the national polls.

But can a MAC team take the next giant step and become a mid-major powerhouse similar to Boise State? Sports Illustrated posed that question in a story last week about Ohio University. The Bobcats are 7-0 for the first time since 1968. They have defeated Penn State, are 23rd in the Associated Press poll and 24th in the Bowl Championship Series standings.

Coach Frank Solich said he thinks the competitiveness within the conference could prevent any school from becoming a consistent top-10 team and playing in a BCS bowl game.

"We certainly appreciate the fact that we're in the national rankings, but we understand what that is all about," Solich said. "Getting there is one thing, but staying there is another. We're going to play the toughest part of the schedule against teams that are winning football games. We're going to have to battle every single game to win football games and stay in the polls."

Ohio got its first bowl victory last season by scoring a touchdown in the final minute against Utah State in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl.

Three other MAC teams won bowl games: Toledo, Northern Illinois and former member Temple. This season, Toledo is 7-1 and coming off a victory over 21st-ranked Cincinnati, Northern Illinois is 7-1 and Kent State is 6-1.

Boise State was ranked in the top 10 of AP's final poll five of the previous six years. It has won 10 or more games in nine of the past 10 seasons partly because it has dominated the Western Athletic and Mountain West conferences. The Broncos have lost three conference games since 2002.

"If you look at the MAC right now, you see top-level football teams," Solich said. "The programs are getting stronger every year. It's not an oddity for a MAC team to have a winning season to the point where they are upsetting teams at the BCS level. When you have a number of teams that are able to do that in one conference, it's difficult for one team to separate themselves."

First-year Toledo coach Matt Campbell said he thinks the MAC can have a national power because coaches such as Solich have created continuity in the program.

"A Boise State certainly can happen (in the MAC)," Campbell said. "It's all about consistency and the coach being able to sustain his staff."

Recruiting top players from the Midwest creates consistency.

"We all have great recruiting bases," Campbell said. "Whether it's Toledo, Ohio University or Northern Illinois, many of our teams have great foot-

ball tradition. Maybe a young man is looking at a BCS school that doesn't have that kind of tradition. They see that we're able to win."

Bobcats injury report

Safety Gerald Moore and defensive lineman Carl Jones are expected to play for Ohio against Miami University on Saturday. Defensive lineman Tremayne Scott could return at some point this season, but not this week.

Tight end Jordan Thompson, offensive lineman Sam Johnson of Liberty Union and defensive backs Omar Leftwich, Xavier Hughes, Travis Carrie and Jamil Shaw are out for the season.

"The list is pretty extensive," Solich said. "It's a case where we do have some depth in our program. If these injuries happened four or five years ago, we definitely would have struggled. We're hanging in there."

Ohio AD signs extension

Ohio athletic director Jim Schaus' contract was extended five years through June 2017. He came to the university from Wichita State.

Schaus hired former men's basketball coach John Groce, who led the Bobcats to a MAC tournament championship and to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament last season, and was the point man in fundraising for an upcoming \$12.5 million multipurpose indoor facility. The grade-point average for the entire athletic department has risen to above 3.0 during his term.

College football: Central Ohio Watch

Mark Znidar

Columbus Dispatch - Oct. 23, 2012

A walk through Ohio University's locker room isn't recommended for those with squeamish stomachs. In every corner, there are players wearing slings and on crutches. Others are in the trainer's room getting worked on.

On defense alone, four players have been lost for the season, two more have missed significant playing time and another has been in and out of the lineup.

The attrition bothers safety Josh Kristoff, a third-year sophomore from Pickerington Central.

"That is hard seeing teammates getting hurt like that," he said. "You know how hard these guys have worked, and then it's taken away from them. They aren't just guys I play with. They are friends."

Kristoff, though, said he was bred to be a tough guy since his high-school days. He ranks tied for sixth on the team with 30 tackles.

"I do like mixing it up, and that's how I've been taught ever since Pickerington Central," he said. "I loved the way we played in high school. We played tough under coach (Jay) Sharrett and (defensive coordinator Jeff) Lomonico. I had a lot of big-time experience there, and that was huge. I was not scared of anything, and that included playing against big-time recruits. We were going to hit harder than you."

Ohio was the only Division I college that offered Kristoff a scholarship, but it appeared he would have to wait for his money by paying his way as a freshman as a "gray shirt."

In June 2010, he was about to accept a scholarship offer from Virginia Military Institute, a member of the Football Championship Subdivision, when he got the biggest news of his football life.

"I was about 12 hours away from committing to VMI," Kristoff said. "I was on a senior trip in Florida. This one day I decided to just stay at the house we were renting and hang out. Until then, I was running around without my cellphone. Then I got a call from the Ohio coaches saying I would be getting a scholarship. That was one of the happiest days of my life."

What came next was something resembling a two-minute drill. Kristoff had to return home, pack and get to campus because the summer semester was about to start.

"I hadn't applied for school because I was set to enroll in January," Josh said. "My parents got all the paperwork ready for me. They even got me school supplies. I applied on a Saturday and got accepted on a Sunday."

Life couldn't be any better these days. Kristoff, a mathematics major, plays for a team that is 7-0 and ranked 23rd in the Associated Press poll and 24th in the Bowl Championship Series standings.

"The buzz around campus has been crazy," he said. "We're setting attendance records; so many alumni are coming back. This is becoming a football town. It's great to get national attention, but that doesn't affect how we go about things. It doesn't matter if we're seventh or 76th in the nation. Everybody is on the same page. We've got a lot of young guys on defense because of the injuries, but it's just meeting one challenge after another."

JournalNews

Solich, Bobcats follow winning formula

Rick Cassano

JournalNews - Oct. 23, 2012

Frank Solich is a low-key guy who pounds away at fundamentals and consistency.

He has no problem calling himself boring and will always choose substance over flash, and it's showed during his eight-year run at the helm of Ohio University's football program.

The Bobcats have played in three straight bowl games and are ranked 23rd in this week's Associated Press and USA Today Coaches polls. They are 7-0 and headed for Yager Stadium in Oxford to face Miami on Saturday.

"We certainly appreciate the fact that we are in the national rankings," Solich said Monday morning. "However, we understand what that's all about. Getting there is one thing. Being able to stay there is another."

This is an OU squad that started the season like a rocket, going on the road and toppling Penn State 24-14 in the first game of the post-Joe Paterno era.

The Bobcats' last two victories weren't pretty (37-34 over winless Massachusetts and 38-31 over 1-6 Buffalo), thanks in part to a rash of defensive injuries. But they keep winning and are coming off a bye week.

"We gave them quite a bit of time off. I think they earned that," Solich said. "With the physical games that we've been playing, it seemed to make sense to do that. They came back and seemed to be rejuvenated."

"Obviously, they know of the task ahead of them in terms of playing Miami. Last year was a great, great ballgame where we hung on to win it at the end. We expect it to be another game similar to that."

Solich, who posted a 58-19 record in six seasons as Nebraska's head coach and is 57-40 in Athens, will make sure his players are focused. That's part of his daily routine, especially as Ohio's national status has risen. The Bobcats are 24th in the Bowl Championship Series standings this week – it's the first time they've ever been in that Top 25.

"We've tried to stay away from any kind of conversation that looks too far down the road," Solich said. "I think once we take our sights off of just preparing for one game at a time and trying to improve the areas that we need to improve on, we're not going to get it done."

OU is averaging 448.1 yards and 36.4 points per contest with an offense spearheaded by redshirt junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton.

Tettleton, who missed a game with an injury, has completed 108-of-179 passes for 1,343 yards and 12 touchdowns with just one interception. He threw for 3,302 yards and 28 TDs last year while running 166 times for 658 yards and 10 scores.

This team is balanced, averaging 217.3 yards per game on the ground and 230.9 through the air. Redshirt junior Beau Blankenship is a bruising

runner (198 carries, 951 yards, six TDs), and redshirt senior Bakari Bussey (21 catches, 215 yards) from Lakota West High School is among the top receivers.

Defensively, the news isn't so good, despite the play of redshirt junior linebacker Keith Moore, who has a team-high 58 total tackles. The injury bug has been actively biting, and Ohio is giving up 259.6 passing yards per game.

Consequently, Solich is concerned about Miami quarterback Zac Dysert (167-of-267, 1,914 yards, 14 TDs).

"Teams have been throwing on us, so we're going to need to step that part of the game up," Solich said. "We need to start getting some more interceptions (OU has seven). We'll start off as usual trying to stop the ground game and hopefully play sound defense."

"It's a case where we do have some depth in our program," he added of OU's injury list. "If these injuries would've happened three, four, five years ago, we would've definitely struggled to win football games. But we're hanging in there."

Football: Blankenship approaches McRae's 1,000 rushing yard legacy

Jim Ryan

The Post - Oct. 24, 2012

Ohio's new semester system might not be a hit with the student body, but it is working in the Bobcats' favor when it comes to handling gridiron collisions.

Once players wrapped up their academic quarter under the university's old system, some would take a step away from the gridiron, heading home to enjoy the holidays. Now, since the semester runs through the middle of December, John Bowman, Ohio director of sports medicine services, will have a better eye on Ohio's student-athletes.

"If we went to a (Mid-American Conference) Championship game and then had a break, they went home and then you didn't get to see them or do a lot with them, so this is a lot better for us," he said, reflecting on the Bobcats' quarter system schedule.

The 2012-13 season has been a perfect storm for the Bobcats' sports medicine staff, as Ohio's bye week came at an opportune time, as well.

A week eight lapse from play was just what the doctor ordered for the Bobcats, giving players a chance to spend time away from the field turf of Peden Stadium, which many used to soak up extra sessions in its athletic training facility.

Bowman said the bye week was used to treat injuries of varying severity and nature, as remedies ranging from ice baths and rest for nagging pains like turf toe to injections dealing with chronic pain were prescribed.

Ohio redshirt junior running back Beau Blankenship said that though he and his teammates like to avoid the training facility for obvious reasons, he appreciates the work that the trainers put in and the relationship they build with players.

"We spend so much time with them — hopefully you don't see them too much — but they take care of us," he said.

Five players also underwent MRIs to identify whether they would need postseason surgery for reoccurring injuries such as cartilage tears and the like.

The most positive impression left following the bye week was not on players requiring extensive care, but those who had nagging injuries resulting from a month of two-a-days and seven straight games.

"For the most part, it's been a lot of rest and modality treatment that we would normally be doing with guys," Bowman said. "We've just been fortunate that we had this time where we can rest them more than one or two days. We can rest them for four or five days, which has been really good for their bodies."

The Bobcats' sports medicine staff employs just more than a dozen individuals, nine of which are undergraduate athletic training students.

Only a handful of trainers travel with the team, where they set up what Bowman called "satellite athletic training" and "injury response" areas in hallways of opposing stadiums.

Kevin Silva, a second-year graduate student studying athletic training and one of Ohio's two graduate assistants, said mentoring younger trainers is equally gratifying to the results he sees on the field.

"It's rewarding to take students that haven't necessarily had a lot of clinical experience and being able to show them what we do," said Silva, who works primarily with Ohio's defensive line. "It's not only just skills, but everything else. It's how to be an athletic trainer and act and take care of patients with that confidence."

Amy Wyke, a first-year graduate student studying athletic training that works mostly with the Bobcats' offensive lineman, said the players "kind of see me as a mom" — a role she has welcomed because of the relationship she has been able to develop with the team.

"You can't really take offense to everything they say or really listen to everything," she said, jokingly. "It's a good experience athletic training-wise because you see the most injuries in football and get the most out of it."

The bond between player and trainer is deep, especially between those who have a long history together. Eric Herman, a redshirt senior offensive lineman, called Bowman, who he has worked with for five seasons, his "go-to guy" and a primary reason he has been able to start a team-high 45 straight games.

"The training staff has 100 percent to do with why I've been in the game so long," he said.

Tyler Tettleton quietly enjoying the ride

Zac Jackson

Fox Sports Ohio - Oct. 26, 2012

ATHENS, Ohio - On this particularly glamorous day in the glamorous life of Ohio University quarterback Tyler Tettleton, he's up with the sun. Within an hour, he's wearing an Oklahoma City Thunder t-shirt and shorts and walking to class -- uphill -- alongside dozens of other students.

If that sounds thrilling, come along a few hours later as he's wandering Athens' famous/infamous Court Street in search of lunch. With dozens of options and plenty of variety abound, Tettleton boldly chooses...Subway.

The sandwich maker behind the counter is less than starstruck. Clearly, she's unaware that she's making a sandwich for the quarterback for the first Ohio University football team to crack the Top 25 rankings since 1968. Dining in what becomes a crowded Subway for almost 45 minutes, Tettleton gets recognized only by a teammate stuck eight deep in line. Back on Court Street, he passes through anonymously.

Completely and totally anonymously. This taking-football-seriously and winning-in-bunches stuff is still relatively new here. The Big Man on Campus is supposed to be a big deal, right?

"No -- and that's fine with me," Tettleton says. "Believe me."

He has enough in his daily sandwich wrapper. Even-keeled and unassuming until he hits the football field, the son of former Major League Baseball player Mickey Tettleton has reluctantly become the face of a Bobcats program that's made a steady climb under coach Frank Solich, is 7-0 so far this season and last weekend made the BCS rankings for the first time ever.

"We knew Tyler had good bloodlines," Solich said. "Once we got him here, we found that he was a very serious worker. He takes pride in his craft, and he's made steady improvement. He's a better young man than he is a football player."

The Bobcats have a veteran offensive line, a workhorse running back in Iowa State transfer and Tettleton's longtime friend, Beau Blankenship, and a mobile, collected quarterback who doesn't necessarily look the part at 6-foot nothing and 200 pounds. Tettleton is the brains and often the engine of a sharp, fast-paced Bobcats offense, leading with the kind of poise and quiet confidence that allowed Ohio to rally from 11 down to win at Penn State and has kept things steady through a rash of injuries and a couple of close calls since.

He's not totally bland; he does mix parmesan with chipotle southwest sauce on his Subway chicken sandwich. As for the jazzy, flashy stuff, he will admit only to thinking that a backfield featuring two high school buddies from Norman, Okla., would lead what was long one of the nation's lowest-profile programs to the Top 25 is pretty darn cool.

"Not in my wildest dreams did I ever think it would be possible," he says. "But it's been a blast."

Tettleton has been walking Court Street during the school day when he's encountered fellow students on the sidewalk and in crosswalks wearing his No. 4 jersey, the one that hangs in the window of more than one campus bookstore. Those students had no idea they were seeing Tettleton himself.

The Bobcats have created quite a buzz, though. The home games have been sold out, and there's already talk that Ohio playing in the MAC Championship Game would bring a crowd of 50,000 to Detroit's Ford Field.

Tettleton, the school's all-time leading passer at the midpoint of his junior season, said he's usually only recognized on campus only by "friends of friends" or when a teammate makes it a point to tell the gathered masses the The Big Star is coming through.

"It's the linemen," Blankenship said. "They love to do things to try to embarrass him. We walk into a restaurant and they scream to anyone who will listen that Tyler is there."

"Tyler hates that stuff."

The closest Tettleton comes to bragging is talking proudly about how his mom and stepfather fly in for almost every game from Oklahoma. After a summertime photo shoot that led to his image being displayed on a 50-foot banner outside Peden Stadium and on billboards throughout Southeast Ohio, he asked for some leftover pictures so he could send them to his grandmother.

"I know they have to do that publicity stuff," Tettleton said. "I don't necessarily like it."

Tettleton knew of Solich from growing up in Big 12 country. When he tore his ACL as a junior in high school and Big 12 schools backed off their recruiting of him, Ohio kept calling. In some ways it was an inside job; Tettleton's high school coach, Lance Manning, was a college teammate of Ohio offensive coordinator Tim Albin.

"Lance told me that when I watched the tape I was going to have a good feeling about the kid," Albin said. "But he said when I actually met Tyler, I'd have a great feeling about him. He wasn't lying. He's different than a lot of kids, and different is good. He's certainly not a kid. He's a polished young man."

"You don't see that confidence outwardly, but it's there. He has the right support system at home, the right demeanor with his teammates and the right kind of leadership qualities to handle being in front of something big. We nailed this one."

Their college experience marks the second time Blankenship has transferred schools to play with Tettleton. They grew up competing against each other "in elementary school track meets and middle school football games," Blankenship said, before Blankenship came to Norman North for high school.

When Norman North, which was formed in 1997, beat neighborhood rival Norman High in football for the first time in 2006, it did so on the strength of a Tettleton touchdown run.

"Legendary stuff back home," Blankenship said. "I don't know that even Tyler would downplay that one."

Tettleton doesn't mind those stories, but he otherwise prefers to not talk about himself. He can go play by play, possession by possession lamenting the miscues that cost his beloved Thunder in the NBA Finals last June. He can name every player on the Ohio defense who's been called into a new or different role through a rash of early-season injuries. When he does have free time, he's most comfortable in his living room playing Call of Duty or Madden Football on Xbox.

On this particularly glamorous day, his roommate is playing Madden on one TV while Teen Mom airs on the one above it. It's quite a setup they have, quite a ride Tettleton is on.

Tettleton said he does sometimes wish he'd stuck with baseball longer, "just to see how far I could have gone with it." He lives just down the street from Ohio University's intramural fields, and he'll often hear screams at night from his classmates playing in those really important flag football games on the eastern edge of campus.

"It always sounds like they're having fun down there," Tettleton said. "I think doing something like that would be a lot of fun. But I wouldn't trade how any of this has turned out for anything. I'm having enough fun with our season."

The Daily Nonpareil

St. Albert grad Waters living the dream at Ohio University

Patrick Donohue

JournalNews - Oct. 27, 2012

Forgive Matt Waters for bending the truth.

Two months ago, the former St. Albert and Iowa Western football standout made his debut at Ohio University, a Division I school in Athens, Ohio, out of the Mid-American Conference.

The Bobcats opened the season Sept. 1 at Penn State. The Nittany Lions play in Beaver Stadium, which has a capacity of over 106,000.

College football typically takes center stage nationally during the first week of the season, but Beaver Stadium received even more attention on that day. The school was playing its first game under a new coaching staff and trying to shake the tarnished image cast by the Jerry Sandusky scandal.

For Waters to have a million thoughts going through his head before his first Division I game would have been understandable.

"It was crazy," said Waters, a 6-foot, 203-pound wide receiver for the Bobcats. "I tell people I was calm and that I didn't let the crowd affect me very much, but underneath I was real nervous. I had never played in front of more than maybe 10,000 people, and then to multiply that by 10 and have it be my first game with my new team, I was pretty nervous."

Waters didn't have a catch in the game, but his first taste of collegiate football ended nicely with a 24-14 Ohio victory.

"To come out of there with a victory was probably one of the most exciting moments I think I've ever had in sports," Waters said.

This entire year has been an exciting ride for Waters. He arrived on the Ohio campus in January after the Bobcats brought him aboard a couple of weeks before.

Since then, it's been all good news for Ohio on the gridiron. Entering today's game at Miami (Ohio), the Bobcats are 7-0 and No. 24 in the latest BCS standings.

"I thought we were going to be good coming into the season, but we really came together as a team in camp," Waters said. "Every week, we try to go 1-0 and keep trying to add wins up. Right now, we're playing really well. Hopefully, we can keep it rolling."

Waters continues to grow as a receiver. He made his first catch – a 22-yarder – in a 27-24 victory over Marshall on Sept. 15. For the year, he has six catches for 113 yards.

The Council Bluffs native's presence in Athens represents the achievement of a dream since high school. Waters received little attention from colleges despite a terrific prep career at St. Albert.

Iowa Western started its program in 2009, and Waters chose to become a Reiver. That decision came with some risk. A new program at IWCC

didn't necessarily guarantee a Division I future, but Waters took the risk, and it paid off.

After redshirting in 2009, Waters was part of back-to-back 9-2 teams at IWCC the next two years. While there, he tallied 92 catches for 1,542 yards and 15 touchdowns.

Waters' sophomore season ended, and he still had no offers in hand. He figured a walk-on role at either Iowa or Iowa State might have been his best option, but then Ohio entered the picture. Iowa Western coach Scott Strohmeier said that Waters only had about a week left to stay in the IWCC dorms before Ohio offered a scholarship.

Strohmeier was especially happy for his wide receiver. Waters' commitment in 2009 showed other western Iowa recruits that it was OK to stay close to home.

"He was one of the biggest signees we made starting the program," Strohmeier said. "Not only because Matt was a great player but locally, because everybody is following him, when Matt decided to come to Iowa Western, I think it opened up a lot of people's eyes, saying, 'Hey, it's not bad to stay at home and play at a two-year school.'"

"Matt was a good student and obviously a good player, so I think it really set the tone for a lot of local kids from a program's standpoint of trying to continue to recruit locally."

Waters is thrilled that Iowa Western is part of his football resume, but he's even more excited about what the program is doing now that he's off campus. His younger brother, Jake, is the starting quarterback on a Reiver team that is currently 8-0, ranked No. 1 in the country and averaging 67 points a game.

"I keep up with them all the time," Waters said. "That's so sweet what they're doing."

Strohmeier thinks it's pretty sweet that a Council Bluffs kid came to campus with a goal and didn't leave until it was reached.

"I was just happy for Matt," Strohmeier said. "His goal when he came here was to see if he could play Division I football, and I felt he could and there was no question he was going to be able to do it at that level. He just needed someone to give him an opportunity."



The Athens Messenger

Redhawks ruin Ohio's undefeated season with 23-20 stunner

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Oct. 30, 2012

OXFORD, Ohio — Ohio's undefeated season, national ranking and potential BCS busting resume took weeks and months to build.

It was erased in nine seconds.

Ohio quarterback Tyler Tettleton was sacked by Miami's Wes Williams on the final play of the game as the RedHawks stunned the visiting Bobcats, 23-20, Saturday inside Yager Stadium.

It was an ending Ohio fans won't soon forget. The Bobcats (7-1, 3-1 Mid-American Conference) had a first down on the Miami 7-yard line but no time outs. Ohio trailed by three and had just nine seconds remaining on the clock. The Bobcats went for the win...and got burned.

On the play, Tettleton took the shotgun snap and looked for an open receiver. And looked. And looked. He darted to his left, tried to come to the right, and Williams pounced on him from behind. The clock struck 0:00 and Ohio's dreams of an undefeated season fell by the wayside.

Ohio head coach Frank Solich said there was little discussion about trying the potential game-tying field goal with nine seconds left instead of gambling with one more offensive play.

"Not much. We wanted to win it right there," Solich said. "Plenty of time to get a play off. You either throw a touchdown pass, or you throw it away."

Tettleton didn't do either. He admitted afterward he lost focus on the specifics of the situation. Tettleton forgot — yes forgot — Ohio was out of timeouts and just nine seconds remained.

"No, I just totally forgot. Just totally forgot. And that's my fault," Tettleton said. "I was just trying to make a play. Everything broke down and I was just trying to make a play."

Miami (4-4, 3-1 MAC) won for the first time since 2005 against its MAC East rival, and posted a win over a top 25 team for the first time since bumping off Northern Illinois in the 2010 MAC Championship game.

RedHawk quarterback Zac Dysert hit on 21 of 36 passes for 311 yards with a touchdown and an interception. But it was running back Jamire Westbrook's 31-yard run on a late fourth-quarter drive that put Miami in position to win. The long run set up Miami at the Ohio 18-yard line.

After three short runs — which exhausted Ohio's supply of time outs — Kaleb Patterson connected on 31-yard field goal that snapped a 20-20 tie with just 1:24 remaining.

Tettleton guided Ohio on a fantastic final drive. He completed four straight passes to move the Bobcats from their own 25 to the Miami 24. Tettleton then had runs of nine and eight yards to move the ball to the seven.

Then Tettleton lost his head, and Ohio lost its undefeated season.

"It definitely hurts," said Ohio senior safety Gerald Moore. "But as a team we have to regroup."

"The rankings aren't our goal. Our goal is to get back to Detroit and get back to the MAC Championship," he added. "We have a lot of games ahead of us that we have to win."

Tettleton hit on 23 of 38 passes for 302 yards and didn't have an interception. But he was sacked six times; Ohio had allowed only five sacks in the first seven games combined.

"It was weird. It hadn't been like that the past seven games," Tettleton said.

Beau Blankenship and Ryan Boykin both had 74 yards apiece on the ground for Ohio, but the Bobcats never fully capitalized against a Miami defense that was allowing 37 points and 500 yards per game.

The RedHawks came out firing and led 13-0 just 12 minutes in. Patterson sandwiched 40 and 32-yard field goals around Dysert's 54-yard touchdown pass to Nick Harwell and Miami had Ohio on the ropes.

Blankenship scored on a five-yard run late in the first quarter to put Ohio on the board, but Westbrook answered with a 1-yard plunge to give Miami a 20-7 lead early in the second quarter.

Tettleton scored on a 3-yard dive with 9:45 left in the first half to trim the deficit to 20-14 at the break. With Ohio settled in defensively, it appeared the Bobcats were on their way to another come-from-behind win on the road.

"Defensively, overall, that was one of our best games," said Ohio senior LB Keith Moore. "We had some big plays that didn't go our way. Some broken coverages."

"I guarantee if you take five or six of those plays away, we win. It's a new ballgame," he added. "It's unfortunate."

But Ohio's offense wasn't able to take advantage. The Bobcats had a first down on the Miami 26 early in the third, but had to settle for a Matt Weller 45-yard field goal thanks to two offensive line penalties. Later in the third, Ohio was at the Miami 27, but a 12-yard sack on Tettleton on third down led to a punt from the RedHawk 39.

The Bobcats finally tied it late in the fourth at 20-20 on Weller's 38-yard field goal. But that came after Ohio had a first-and-goal at the five, but had to kick after a 15-yard sack on Tettleton on third down.

"There were many opportunities to get ourselves involved in this football game at a much higher level and we did not get that done," Solich said. "We had first-and-goal at the five-yard line, had a chance to put seven points on the board and we didn't get it done."

Tettleton said the game was over, but not Ohio's season.

"It sucks. But it's not the end," he said. "We still have a chance to get back to Detroit. That's been our thing. Unfinished business. It's not over."

Ohio returns to action on Thursday with a 6 p.m. start against Eastern Michigan inside Peden Stadium.

Miami University 23, Ohio University 20: Bobcats run out of time

Mark Znidar

Columbus Dispatch - Oct. 28, 2012

OXFORD, Ohio — Nine seconds remained and the ball was on the Miami University 9-yard line when Ohio University quarterback Tyler Tettleton took a snap from center Skyler Allen in shotgun formation.

The Bobcats had no timeouts left, but coach Frank Solich wanted one final shot at a winning touchdown before bringing on kicker Matt Weller for a chip-shot field-goal attempt that would have forced overtime. Tettleton drifted to his left and patiently looked for receiver Donte Foster to shake free on a back side slant route in the end zone.

He was too patient.

Tackle Wes Williams burst through the line and sacked Tettleton for a 3-yard loss with three seconds left. There was not enough time to line up and spike the ball to stop the clock for another play. The result was a stunning 23-20 victory for the RedHawks over the 23rd-ranked Bobcats yesterday before 19,326 in Yager Stadium.

In all probability, Ohio (7-1, 3-1 Mid-American Conference) will lose its national ranking in the Associated Press poll and Bowl Championship Series standings. Its winning streak against Miami (4-4, 3-1) ended at six games.

The worst part is the Bobcats are one game behind Kent State in the MAC East and must play three games in 12 days beginning with Eastern Michigan on Thursday in Peden Stadium.

Tettleton, a record-breaking redshirt junior, said he forgot Ohio had no timeouts left and lost track of time.

"I was just trying to make a play — everything broke down," he said. "I totally forgot, and that's my fault. That's all there is to it. (The pass play) wasn't there. I should have thrown it away."

It's a situation Tettleton has been through uncounted times in games and practices. Solich was confident putting the game in his lap once again.

"We wanted to win it right there," Solich said. "There was plenty of time to get a play off. You either throw a touchdown pass or throw it away."

Williams, who was moved from end to the interior line for this game, wanted it to be the last play.

"I just had one thought in my head — I'm going to go get him," he said. "Before the play I was like, 'Yo, Jay (defensive coordinator Peterson), if we get a sack here, it's game over.' We were just doing everything we could to get to him."

Ohio used its three timeouts to stop the clock just before Miami took the lead on a 31-yard field goal by Kaleb Patterson with 1:24 remaining. The key plays in the drive were a 17-yard reception by Nick Harwell on

third-and-2 to the Miami 48 and a 30-yard run by Spencer Treadwell to the Ohio 18.

Ohio linebacker Keith Moore of Grove City said it was a matter of Miami making a few more plays.

"We had some things that didn't go our way — some busted coverage," Moore said. "If you take away five or six plays, we win. Our defense in the second half had plenty of three-and-outs."

Tettleton was magnificent in driving the Bobcats from their 25-yard line into scoring position. He completed passes of 28, 11, 6 and 6 yards and had 9- and 8-yard runs.

It looked as if he would overcome a shaky day from an offensive line that gave up six sacks and was penalized twice for holding and once for hands to the face.

In 2011, Ohio fell one game behind early in conference play but rebounded to win the division.

"You get a major roadblock and you have to regroup," safety Gerald Moore said. "The rankings are not our goal."

Football: Wide receiver's consistency, productivity progresses Bobcats despite injury

Jim Ryan

The Post - Oct. 31, 2012

Ohio redshirt junior wide receiver Donte Foster has been making big plays since high school, where he had his first brush with the national spotlight by being featured as ESPN's top play for a buzzer-beating basketball swish with his back to the basket in 2009.

Despite his big-play potential, Foster has become more known for his consistency while starring on the gridiron at Ohio. He has averaged 13 yards per catch during the past three seasons, but has only one reception longer than 35 yards, which came in 2010.

That makes Foster's average yardage all the more impressive, as it is not buoyed by many lengthy receptions. Moreover, he has tacked almost 20 yards onto his game average from last season and is on pace to surpass his 2011-12 total of 352 yards with a 29-yard performance Thursday against Eastern Michigan.

Ohio wide receivers coach Dwayne Dixon said Foster's productivity has made him the leading candidate for big-play balls when the game is on the line, filling in for departed deep threats LaVon Brazill and Riley Dunlop.

"Quarterbacks have an affinity to throw it to the guy they think is going to catch it most," Dixon said. "I think (Foster) wants to make sure he makes (quarterbacks) look good, like, 'Just put it in the air and I'll go make a play on it.'"

That's redshirt junior quarterback Tyler Tettleton's mentality in dealing with his most frequent target, who said he learned to judge timing and trajectory on the hardwood, on which he starred in high school and later averaged almost 13 points per game at Seminole State College of Florida before coming to Ohio.

"He's the one that gets open," said Tettleton, Foster's 2011-12 roommate. "I just have to throw it up and give him a chance, because I know he's going to come down with it."

One route that has been a success this season is the corner fade, where Tettleton finesses a floater to the far corner of the end zone, where Foster meets it, airborne, hands outstretched.

That was the case in the first game of the season, when the duo connected to seal a win against Penn State — perhaps the most momentous win of their careers.

With 2:59 remaining in the game and Ohio trailing by three, Tettleton dropped back to pass and released toward the far rear corner of the end zone. By the time he returned to his feet after being knocked to the ground on the 14-yard line by Penn State linebacker Michael Mauti, Foster had already shook off safety Jacob Fagnano, roped in the pass, and ran off the field to the sound of a thousand camera clicks.

That moment will be forever ingrained in Foster's memory, but it was no different than the one practiced at Peden Stadium so many times — 500-600 if Foster's estimation is correct.

"I felt that play would put a dagger in them," Foster said, recalling getting the relay from offensive coordinator Tim Albin in the team huddle. "I just went through my steps on-point. It'll definitely be a memorable play (of) my career."

Since, the road Foster has taken hasn't been easy or as glamorous. He was forced to watch from the sidelines during Ohio's wins against Massachusetts and Buffalo earlier this season because of a thumb injury, and as a result, a thick layer of tape still wraps around his thumb and palm while on the gridiron.

"It's been a big lift for him to fight through and show the guys, 'Hey, I'm going to tough it out even though it's a part of me being able to make plays on the ball,'" Dixon said.

Foster is anxious to get back on the field Thursday after leaving empty-handed from the game against Miami, in which he was supposed to be the primary target on the game-ending broken play that ended Ohio's perfect 2012 campaign.

"The route that the coach had called, I thought that it would be open, myself," he said. "But as they rolled over a safety, I saw that it was going to be kind of impossible to get it in between there. I definitely wanted the ball in my hands in that situation."

"It's good that we have a quick turnaround, though, because we can seek out and go try to punish Eastern Michigan for our loss."



The Athens Messenger

Bobcats bounce back in a big way

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Nov. 1, 2012

Donte Foster turned up field, off a block from a teammate, and saw nothing but open grass between him and his goal.

The Bobcats, as a whole, feel the same way.

Ohio rebounded from its first loss of the season, with vigor, as the Bobcats whipped visiting Eastern Michigan 45-14 in front of an announced crowd of 16,789 inside Peden Stadium Thursday night. In short, Ohio (8-1, 4-1 Mid-American Conference) had its most complete game of the conference season.

"It felt good to get back on track. It was a quick turnaround from Miami," said Foster, a junior wide receiver. "We wasn't very pleased with the Miami game so we needed to come out and make a statement."

Foster did his part to lead the charge as he picked up a career-high 164 receiving yards on seven catches and notched a pair of touchdowns. Foster's 79-yard catch-and-run late in the third quarter put the game out of reach, and the Eagles (1-8, 0-5 MAC) out of their misery.

On first down at the Ohio 21, QB Tyler Tettleton fired a 10-yard pass to Foster in the left flat. Foster navigated his way to the middle of field, cut off a block from Tyler Futrell, then exploded through a pack of EMU defenders untouched. The 79-yard play was Ohio's longest of the season offensively, and capped a 99-yard touchdown drive that took the life out of the Eagles.

Ohio's lead went from 24-14, to 31-14 in a span of 15 seconds.

"I was just looking for open space. I saw that I needed to get up field at some point. I just cut it right off Futrell's block and it was off to the races," Foster explained. "The guys give me a hard time and say I'm not fast and everything, so I felt like I needed to prove something different."

The Bobcats played with a bit of a chip on their collective shoulder. After losing last weekend at Miami for its first loss of the season Ohio needed to bounce back; the 'Cats did it in a big way.

Backup RB Ryan Boykin had a season-high 128 yards and a touchdown, while starter Beau Blankenship had 72 yards and another score. The Bobcats racked up 559 yards and shut out Eastern Michigan over the final 32 minutes.

Besides two turnovers, there wasn't much Ohio coach Frank Solich could quibble with.

"Finally a game where we were able to separate ourselves in the second half as the game went on and have a cushion at the end," Solich said. "It was a good win for us."

Tettleton hit 19 of 27 passes for 255 yards and three touchdowns. He had his second interception of the season — when the ball was batted at the line of scrimmage and an EMU defensive lineman made the diving catch on the deflection — but was also victimized by a handful of drops.

Tettleton was sharp, in control, and didn't appear to be the least bit fazed by Saturday's last-second breakdown against the RedHawks.

"We just wanted to get back in the win column, move on and do what we've been doing before the Miami game. One week, one game at a time. All of our goals are intact and we understand that," Tettleton said.

"It was in the past so there was nothing I could do about it. I'm the type to move on and look ahead," he continued. "Another week, new game, and that's what it was

this week."

Bronson Hill rushed for 111 yards for EMU, and RB Ryan Brumfield scored on both a 17-yard reception and a 3-yard run for the Eagles. QB Tyler Benz completed 9 of 21 passes for 138 yards with a score and an interception.

But Eastern Michigan couldn't keep pace with an Ohio offense that converted 8 of 12 third downs and averaged 8.0 yards per play.

"It seemed like everything was clicking. Every hole was open. Can't give enough credit to the linemen," Boykin said. "It seemed like we couldn't miss. We were hitting everything."

Blankenship opened Ohio's scoring with a two-yard TD run early in the first quarter, but fumbled away the ball on the Bobcats' next series. EMU cashed in the giveaway with Brumfield's TD catch from Benz and forged a 7-7 tie that endured through the end of the first quarter.

Matt Weller booted a 25-yard field goal early in the second, then Ohio pushed the lead to 17-7 midway through the frame after Tettleton fired a 7-yard touchdown pass to Chase Cochran.

Eastern Michigan closed to within 17-14 with 2:08 left in the first half after a short punt gave the Eagles a short field. Brumfield scored and it appeared EMU might hang around.

It didn't work out that way. Tettleton got the ball back with 55 seconds left in the first half, after his interception and a quick EMU three-and-out, on the Ohio 35-yard line. The Bobcats needed just 44 seconds to get another touchdown as Tettleton hit Foster with a 19-yard touchdown pass on the right side with just 11 seconds left in the half.

Solich said the situation didn't conjure up any flashbacks to Saturday in Oxford.

"Last week didn't cross my mind," he said.

After Foster's second touchdown blew the game open in the third, Ohio finished off the game with a pair of touchdown runs. Boykin scored on a 13-yard burst with 5:40 left in the fourth, and freshman Daz'mond Patterson notched his first career rushing touchdown with just 1:33 to go.

It was the first easy win of the conference slate for Ohio. It was also the second of three games in 12 days for the Bobcats. Ohio wraps up the flurry Wednesday night when Bowling Green (6-3, 4-1 MAC) visits Peden on Senior Night. Kick off set for 8 p.m. and the game will be broadcast on ESPN2.

"I think it gives us a little momentum going into this next one. We're still in the situation of playing three games in 12 days. We have to get ready for one in six days now," Solich said. "That's not easy."

Ohio played without safety Thad Ingol, cornerback Octavius Leftwich and wide receiver Ryan Clark, who all sat out with injuries. During the game WR Landon Smith broke a bone in his lower right leg, and will see his season end. Solich said Smith will require surgery.

"We're just trying to stay as healthy as we can," the coach said.



The Athens Messenger

Bobcats to face MAC's best defense

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Nov. 5, 2012

Playing for the third time in just 12 days, Ohio University football coach Frank Solich expects his team will be challenged physically.

The fact that the third opponent in the stretch is Bowling Green, well, that just seems like cruel and unusual punishment.

The Falcons bring their nasty, physical, quick defense to Peden Stadium for an 8 p.m. kick-off against the Bobcats Wednesday night. It's a make-or-break type of game for both teams as both Ohio (8-1, 4-1 Mid-American Conference) and Bowling Green (6-3, 4-1 MAC) control its own destinies in the MAC East race.

The schedule-makers did Ohio no favors with this one. Bowling Green is coming in off an extended rest — the Falcons didn't play last weekend — and has had 10 days to diagram, diagnose and game plan for Ohio.

And BG's defense doesn't need extra prep time to be effective. The Falcons have graded out as the best defensive team in the conference this season. The best defense in the league, plus extra prep time, is a formula that is bound to provide Ohio with a challenge.

Solich said the Falcons might be the best defensive club his squad has faced all season.

"This will be, I think, probably the best defense we've played," Solich said Monday. "That's saying a lot. Penn State (Ohio's week one opponent) had a great front seven.

"They're fast...their up-front people are very aggressive," he added. "They penetrate, they have great quickness. They're a ball-hawking unit when it comes to getting the ball in the air.

"They have a great combination of things going for themselves."

Defense has been at the forefront of Bowling Green's current five-game winning streak; the Falcons have allowed just 33 combined points during the stretch while also not allowing any more than 12 points in any one game.

In BG's last two games, the Falcons didn't allow a touchdown in wins over UMass (24-0) and Eastern Michigan (24-3).

"If you look at them the last four or five games, they've really shut people down," Solich said.

It's no fluke. Bowling Green leads the MAC in six major defensive categories including points per game (15.2), yards per game (290.0) and third-down conversion percentage (31.0). The Falcons also rank second in the MAC in sacks (25) and are tied for fourth in turnover margin (+6 for the season, +0.67/game).

The Falcons' quick front seven is paced by senior defensive tackle Chris Jones, who has become the most disruptive defensive player in the conference. Jones leads the nation with 11.5 sacks and is second with 16.0 tackles for loss.

"You obviously have to be aware of where he's at," Solich noted. "But the problem that you have is the other guys surrounding him are also very quick and good pass rushers.

"They do enough movement, with their quickness, to cause most offenses problems."

The Bobcats have stared down top-rated MAC defenses before, however. Specifically, Temple the previous couple of seasons brought a highly-touted defense into late-season match-ups with Ohio only to see the Bobcats reel off big offensive days. The Bobcats, averaging 35.6 points a game and 462.2 yards per contest, simply have to execute at a high level, said quarterback Tyler Tettleton.

"We've been playing good ball, so we just have to keep doing that," he said. "Keep executing, keep moving it on third down, and keep taking care of the ball.

"We're going to have to match their physical play and their aggressiveness, and I think we'll do that."

And as for the Falcons' advantage in prep time? It is what it is, Solich said. Ohio has played a similar slew of games in a two-week window before. The Bobcats won all three games last year under similar circumstances, and won two of three in 2007.

"Not everybody is able to do it. Whether we're able to do it, we'll see," the coach said.

"It's clear you can not look at it as a negative," Solich continued. "You understand what it is. We've been there before, we know what it takes to get it done."

The game is marketed as the 'Bobcat Blackout' and the team will wear an all-black uniform. Solich hopes for a rowdy crowd to help the Bobcats power through.

Senior safety Gerald Moore said it's on the Bobcats themselves, however, to bring the energy. Three games in less than two weeks shouldn't affect Ohio on Senior Night, he said.

"It's not a concern for us," Moore said. "We know we have to grind it out. It's just one of those things. It's rough, but we'll have a break after this one."

THE PLAIN DEALER

Ohio U. lineman inspired by brother injured in Afghanistan

Elton Alexander

Cleveland Plain Dealer - November 5, 2012

Strength comes from a lot of places. For Scotty Hasting and his brother, Corey, it comes from a bond that extends from the two and through others.

Scotty, shot 14 times in Afghanistan in 2011 and now rehabilitating from his wounds, finds some of his strength to carry on in part from watching Corey, a defensive end for the Ohio University Bobcats.

And Corey draws his strength from Scotty, who now looks forward to Senior Night on Wednesday when the Bobcats (8-1, 4-1 Mid-American Conference) play Bowling Green (6-3, 4-1). Scotty will be there to see his brother play live for the first time at OU's Peden Stadium.

"Ever since we were kids, we kind of fed off of each other," Scotty, 24, said from Fort Riley, Kan., where he has been undergoing rehabilitation that could extend for another year.

"A lot of it has been my wife, too, because I'm only as strong as the people around me. Having Corey around me, my wife, my kids. After I got shot, there were only two options: I could live and push through it, or shut down and become an emotional wreck. I wasn't going to do that."

Yet, he easily could have.

While investigating a hut in Afghanistan, he was surprised and shot by the enemy. Scotty took one bullet through the thigh, four in his hip and five in his shoulder. Four other potentially fatal slugs were buried in his bullet-proof vest. It took four days for him to be transported back to Walter Reed Hospital, where his family, including his wife and brother, were waiting.

"Just seeing him that first night, and having him tell the story, was just unbelievable," said Corey, 22. "Being able to walk into Walter Reed, seeing people without legs, some with half a head, or just one eye, it just humbles you so much. It's like, I go to school for free and play football. And these guys are fighting for our country."

"You might hear, 'These soldiers are fighting for our country.' You don't really realize until it hits home how big of a deal it is actually going on over there."

Corey spent as much time as he could with his older brother through that first year, offering support through his initial recovery.

"I was able to be there when he took his first step," said Corey, who played football at Milford High, outside of Cincinnati. "Being able to see that was overwhelming. We realized it was going to be a tough road for him. But he's handled it so well. All the doctors say he's way ahead of where he should be. He's started running, getting his legs back under him. They expect about 95 to 98 percent recovery."

So while Scotty's wife, Cara, is by his side daily, the whisper in his ear, and the warm hand inside his own, Corey has become the text message outlet for private jokes and encouragement both send back and forth to each other.

Scotty has continued his rehab, watching his brother's games on the Internet. His biggest challenge now is overall strength, and nerve damage in his right hand, limiting its use.

"With nerves, it's weird, and most of my stuff is nerve damage," Scotty said. "You never know with nerves. One day they could be growing nice, then the next day they just stop. Every day my hand gets better, it's a blessing. My specialist says it should get a lot better than what it is right now, so that is what we are hoping for. The main thing is I'm still here."

All of which is a marvel to Corey.

"He's handling it better than I would, that's for sure," Corey said.

"He's open and free to talk about it. He definitely understands it could have been a lot worse, which I think is really good. At first, he was having some night terrors, re-enacting everything. But he's doing really well. He just had a baby, this past April, and that has helped him.

"He got shot in April 2011 and had the baby in April 2012," said Corey, who now wears his brother's dog tags. "So it has been kind of crazy to see how a year can change."

It's been a change for both of them, as during that same span, Corey has gone from walk-on status to a scholarship player and mainstay on the Bobcats' defensive line at 6-1, 260 pounds. As the season wears on, the aches and pains start adding up on the football field, but for Corey, they come with a smile.

"To get a 'Good Luck' text, and 'Good Game' text from my brother before and after games is overwhelming," Corey said. "I write 'For Him' on my cleats. He's with me all the time.

"He just loves watching me play. He's always been my No. 1 fan in everything I've done. I know he would do anything for me if I ever needed it. And he knows when I'm out there, I'm playing for him."

So when Corey sent his brother a text that he had hurt his foot, there was a quick text in response.

"Hey, dude, my hand doesn't work," Scotty said.

Corey knows it will be a special moment Wednesday night.

"To see him, and he's going to walk out on the field with me, too, it will be overwhelming."

And the feeling is much the same from his brother.

"I'm excited, absolutely," Scotty said. "It should be a blast. Every game I watch, I'm excited, but it's going to be even better when I can be there."

"You've got to live every moment. I used to live my life like, yeah, whatever. But now it's like, life can be taken from you in an instant. Now, talking to Corey and my wife, if you want to live forever, live like you will die today."



The Athens Messenger

Bobcats send off seniors with Black Out

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Nov. 7, 2012

Five years ago, Gerald Moore came to Ohio University to play football, and to help build a program.

Now Moore, and his fellow seniors, will play for the final time inside Peden Stadium in a game critical to the continued development of that goal.

Moore and 18 other Bobcat seniors have piled up more wins during their playing careers than any other class in Ohio history. They're hoping for one more tonight when Ohio (8-1, 4-1 MAC) takes on Bowling Green (6-3, 4-1 MAC) in a nationally televised (ESPN2) contest starting at 8 p.m.

It's an elimination game of sorts for both teams. The winner will still control its own destiny in the MAC East chase, while the loser will fall two full games behind division leader Kent State (5-0 MAC) with just games remaining.

Ohio's seniors have won more games than any other group in Bobcat history, but they haven't yet been able to end Ohio's MAC championship drought. The 'Cats haven't won the title since 1968.

Moore said the group talked about forging new ground when they initially came to Athens. Tonight is another chance to keep that dream alive.

"We definitely talk about it," said Moore, a safety and team captain. "It's one of those things that when we came in as a group we wanted to be one of the best classes to play here.

"It's something we've worked for and strived for."

It won't be easy. Bowling Green has the same MAC championship dreams and brings in a confidence-building five-game winning streak and the conference's best defense.

The Falcons have found their identity under Dave Clawson: a lock-down defense with enough offensive creativity to get by.

Bowling Green leads the MAC in every important defensive category, and hasn't given up a touchdown in three weeks. Led by havoc-causing defensive tackle Chris Jones — who leads the nation with 11.5 sacks — the Falcons are giving up a downright stingy 15.3 points per game.

"That's a huge problem," Ohio coach Frank Solich said. "You're going to have few opportunities, when they come you have to be able to take advantage of them."

Bowling Green's offense ranks in the bottom third of the MAC, but Clawson's varied style plus extended prep time will have the Bobcats on their heels at the start. BG comes in off a bye week, while Ohio will be playing for the third time in 12 days.

The Falcons will have plenty of exotic, gadget or trick plays up their sleeve, Moore said.

"It's pretty difficult because they throw a lot at you," he said. "Especially with them having more than a week to prepare for us, you expect them to come out with something new, something different."

Clawson said Ohio's offense will present challenges of its own. The Bobcats' offensive line is capable of blocking the Falcons' quick, swarming front.

And Ohio's balance has helped it pile up 35.6 points and 462.2 yards per game this season. With quarterback Tyler Tettleton able to buy time and extend plays with his legs, the Bobcats are able to force teams to be a little less aggressive.

Add in Ohio's many option looks, and Clawson said even his top-ranked defense

will have a challenge.

"They are very hard to cheat against," Clawson said. "We're playing one the best, and probably most consistent, teams in the MAC over the last four years."

Tettleton is poised to make Ohio history; the junior needs 83 yards and 27 completions to move into first place in both categories in the Ohio record book. Tettleton is already the program's career leader in touchdown passes.

Tettleton didn't want to talk about that, but did say Ohio's offensive line has been good all season and believed they would be able to answer the challenge tonight.

"We have to match their physical play and aggressiveness up front," he said. "I think we will."

Solich believes Ohio will have to play well in all three phases to win, something it did for the first time in a month in last Thursday's 45-14 win over Eastern Michigan.

The coach anticipates a classic battle in the trenches.

"It's a real strength-on-strength match up there," he said.

Ohio is coming in on short rest against a team that has had an extended break. It's a formula that usually adds up to a loss.

But the Bobcats are playing at home. The annual 'Bobcat Black Out' is tonight and fans are encouraged to wear black to match the team's all-black uniform combination (helmet, jersey and pants).

Ohio has had good home support all season and Solich believes that could be a factor tonight in helping his team to another victory.

"It's huge. I don't think every MAC school has a home-field advantage," he said. "We're building that now."



Punting problems puncture Ohio's MAC hopes

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Nov. 8, 2012

Ohio's special season may have been done in by its special teams.

Visiting Bowling Green blocked two punts, and Ohio couldn't get two more punts away, and the Falcons cashed in on the special teams gaffes for 19 points to stop the Bobcats 26-14 inside Peden Stadium on Wednesday night.

An announced crowd of 19,122 came to Peden clad in black as part of a 'Bobcat Blackout' promotion, but instead it was Ohio's Mid-American Conference championship hopes that dimmed. The Bobcats (8-2, 4-2 MAC) have dropped two of their last three games, and saw Senior Night end with just a handful of fans left in the stands to honor the winningest class in program history.

If Ohio wants to win the MAC East, it's going to need a lot of help. The Bobcats trail Bowling Green (7-3, 5-1 MAC) and Kent State (8-1, 5-0 MAC) in the division standings.

"It's always hard to go out like that," said senior safety Gerald Moore. "We just got to keep playing. That's football, that's life."

Bowling Green's MAC-best defense lived up to its billing and held Ohio to just 244 total yards — more than 200 below the Bobcats' average. Ohio started the first half with a 72-yard touchdown drive, and began the second half with a 95-yard touchdown drive, but totaled just 77 yards combined on its other nine possessions.

"It all came down to their defense," said Ohio quarterback Tyler Tettleton, who became Ohio's career leader in passing yardage with 145 yards on 21 of 34 throws. "That's really about it."

When the Falcons weren't stuffing Ohio, they handed the ball to sophomore running back Anthon Samuel. Samuel responded with a career-high 181 rushing yards and two touchdowns on 29 carries.

"It's obvious we weren't controlling the running game the way we would have liked," Ohio coach Frank Solich said.

But despite those issues, it was the punting game that will earn the bulk of the blame for Ohio's first home loss of the season. Starting punter Grant Venham was blocked twice, and bobbled another punt that led to a fourth-down run that came up short of the marker. With Venham already the victim of two bad punt experiences in the first half, Solich elected to send out place kicker Matt Weller for his first career punt attempt late in the first half.

On that attempt, the snap from Miles Chapman was low and rolled between Weller's legs. Weller fell on the ball in his own end zone for a safety. The play gave Bowling Green a 19-7 lead with just 18 seconds left in the first half.

Without a doubt, Ohio's punt team exploits were an absolute horror show.

"It was all kinds of a nightmare that we didn't just straighten out," Solich said.

Running back Beau Blankenship had 97 yards on 18 carries for Ohio, and was the catalyst in the Bobcats' two scoring drives of the night. On the 'Cats first drive of the game, Ohio ran straight ahead and took a 7-0 lead when Tettleton capped off a 72-yard march with a five-yard touchdown run.

Down 19-7 at the break, Ohio started the third quarter with a 95-yard drive. Tettleton hit Chase Cochran with a three-yard touchdown pass to cap the series, which again featured Blankenship gaining chunks of yardage.

"We were running the ball there," Tettleton said when asked what was different about those two drives.

The second score cut the margin to 19-14 and it appeared Ohio had hope. It disappeared late in the third when Bowling Green collected its second blocked punt after Jude Adjei-Baimah stuffed Venham's rugby-style kick. Samuel plowed in from four yards out seven plays later and Bowling Green led 26-14 with 14:50 remaining.

Ohio's only other drive of note ended at the BG 20 when Tettleton's fourth-down throw to Derek Roback came up 11 yards short of the first down.

"We gave them points off that stuff," Blankenship said. "It put us under more pressure."

Ohio led 7-0 after the first quarter, but BG exploded for 19 points in the second. Samuel scored on a 15-yard run, carrying several tacklers into the end zone, on the first play of the frame to tie it 7-7. The drive started on the Ohio 20 after Brian Sutton came free and blocked Venham for the first time.

Bowling Green went up 14-7 midway through the second when QB Matt Schilz executed a brilliant play-action fake, then found wideout Chris Gallon wide open for a 55-yard touchdown throw.

Tyler Tate added a 35-yard field goal after Venham bobbled a punt snap and couldn't get the kick off for a 17-7 lead with 1:46 to go in the half.

And Weller's aborted punt attempt late in the late the half resulted in a safety.

It was just too many critical special teams mistakes to overcome.

"Special teams were a large part of this," Solich conceded. "We had one punt bobbled, twice...one was a bad snap. And two others where too many guys were coming through the wedge."

Ohio started the season 7-0, hit the top 25 in the national polls, and broke into the BCS rankings. Now, the Bobcats will have to fight for a bowl game. Six teams in the MAC alone are bowl eligible.

"We're not executing at a real high level right now," the coach said. "We have to go back to work."

Bowling Green 26, Ohio University 14: Bobcats outside looking in

Mark Znidar

Columbus Dispatch - Nov. 8, 2012

ATHENS, Ohio — The Ohio University athletic department declared last night's game against Bowling Green a "Black Out," meaning everyone passing through the turnstiles of Peden Stadium was asked to wear something black in a display of unity.

The Bobcats wore their favorite all-black uniforms that have been something of a lucky charm.

What happened on the field was a blackout of another kind. The lights might have gone out on Ohio's chances of winning a Mid-American Conference East Division championship.

Four gaffes in punt formation by the Bobcats led to two touchdowns, a field goal and safety in a costly 26-14 loss to the Falcons before an announced crowd of 19,122 and a national television audience.

Ohio (8-2, 4-2) trails Kent State by 11 1/2 games and Bowling Green (7-3, 5-1) by one game with two remaining and will need some help to win a fourth division championship since 2006.

It was the Bobcats' third game in 12 days, and they were lethargic.

"The special teams miscues were a large part of this football game," coach Frank Solich said. "The punting game across the board was a negative and a huge problem. We obviously weren't getting things blocked well enough up front."

The night started with promise as the Bobcats drove 72 yards in 11 plays for a touchdown. Quarterback Tyler Tettleton ran 5 yards for a score.

Ohio was never the same after Brian Sutton blocked a punt by Grant Venham with seven seconds left in the first quarter.

The Falcons took over on the Bobcats' 20-yard line and scored in three plays on a 15-yard run by Anthon Samuel.

An impressive ball fake led to Bowling Green's second touchdown, a 55-yard pass from Matt Schilz to Chris Gallon with 7:34 left in the second quarter to make it 14-7.

Ohio's punt team broke down twice more in the second quarter.

On fourth-and-18, Venham dropped a clean snap from center. He had plenty of time to gather himself and kick, but he tried to run for the first down and was stopped after a 4-yard gain.

The Falcons raised their lead to 17-7 with a 35-yard field goal by Tyler Tate with 1:46 left in the half.

The third mistake on a punt resulted when a snap from center skipped between the legs of Matt Weller, the placekicker who replaced Venham.

Weller was tackled in the end zone for a safety with 18 seconds left in the half.

There was hope for a comeback when Ohio drove 95 yards for a touchdown in 14 plays on its first drive of the second half. Tettleton found Chase Cochran for a 3-yard touchdown pass.

But a Venham punt was blocked by Jude Adjei-Barimah of Northland that gave Bowling Green the ball at Ohio's 29. Seven plays later, Samuel ran for a 4-yard touchdown to make it 26-14 with 14:50 left in the fourth quarter.

For the second time in three games, Ohio's offensive line broke down. Tettleton was sacked four times in the first half. A handful of other times he was forced to run out of the pocket.

"It came down to their defense," Tettleton said. "They have an amazing defense, probably the best defense I've played against since I've been here. Everything they did was really good."



The Athens Messenger

Bobcats seek turnaround

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Nov. 13, 2012

The Cardinals are expecting to turn the game into an event.

The Bobcats are hoping it's not a wake for their postseason hopes.

Two teams seemingly traveling in different directions meet Wednesday night as Ohio (8-2, 4-2 Mid-American Conference) visits Muncie, Ind. for a nationally televised tilt against Ball State (7-3, 4-2 MAC).

The Cardinals have won four games in a row, beat two teams from BCS automatic-qualifying conferences in the same season for the first time in program history, and play for the first time since a win over then No. 25 Toledo on the road.

The Cardinals are flying high, and want to amp up the atmosphere with a 'Black Out' of their own. Ball State will even be giving a two-year lease on a car during the game at Scheumann Stadium.

Three straight road wins, and a potent two-pronged offense, have second-year coach Pete Lembo feeling good about November.

"Our guys are having fun and responding well," said Lembo.

Ohio, on the other hand, is struggling to pick up the pieces after a gut-wrenching stretch of three games in 12 days. The Bobcats lost the opener in that run, 23-20 at Miami, and then had their MAC championship hopes wiped away with a 26-14 loss on Senior Night to Bowling Green last Wednesday.

Oh yeah, Ohio lost to BG after four punt team failures led to 19 Falcon points.

Ouch.

"Last week hurt," said junior MLB Keith Moore. "But go 1-0 each week. That's been our thing. We have a full week to prepare. We've been getting in the film room, getting out here on the field.

"We're ready."

The Cardinals will make sure to test that Ohio punting unit, which has had four punts blocked this season and another dozen close calls or bobbled snaps. The Bobcats went back to basics with the unit this week and believe they have ironed out the concerns there.

But they won't know for sure until Ball State comes after one.

"Obviously we got to snap the ball well, we got to catch the ball. If we do those two things, I'll feel much more comfortable about what we're doing in the punting game," Ohio coach Frank Solich said.

The Cardinals may elect not to try to block every one of them. Lembo believes Ohio will be ready for that, and besides BSU has the top punt returner in the league in WR Jamill Smith (14.7 per return).

"That coaching staff, as strong as it is, is going to have that rectified," Lembo said.

Even if all the special teams units get passing grades, Ohio will have its work cut out. The Cardinals have one of the most potent offenses in the MAC, and eat up clock like no one else in the conference. BSU leads the league in first downs per game and in time of possession, is second in yards per game, and is averaging 37 points per game in MAC play.

Ohio is also seeking to get its own offense back on track. The Bobcats are coming off a season-low 14 points and 244 total yards against Bowling Green.

QB Tyler Tettleton has been sacked 10 times in the last three games, the wide receiving group has had trouble finding separation in the secondary, and the ground game took a hit this week when RB Ryan Boykin was ruled out for the rest of the season with a knee injury.

The Bobcats have concerns all over the field, and will be playing for the fourth time in 19 days. It's not exactly a formula for success.

"In saying that, I really think we've responded well this week in practice," Solich said.

Ball State hasn't been getting the headlines in the improved MAC this season, but it has quietly put together a solid season.

"I think they might be the best team we've faced," said senior DL Corey Hasting.

The Cardinals have dropped three games this season, but the teams they've lost to (Clemson, Kent State and Northern Illinois) are a combined 27-3 on the season.

Despite that resume Ball State, like Ohio, needs another win or two to feel safe and sure about a bowl game invite.

Whether its extending current momentum, or reversing recent trends, both teams will have plenty invested.

"No doubt, both teams have an awful lot to play for," Lembo said.

Solich realizes Ohio has clinched nothing yet in terms of the postseason. Ohio could still reach a program record 11 wins this season, but that would require wins in its final two regular-season games and then a bowl bid.

Right now, the 'Cats are not sure of playing past the regular-season finale at Kent State on Nov. 23.

"Right now I don't feel comfortable about anything. The only way to make me start to feel comfortable is to win," Solich said when asked if he felt Ohio had locked up a bowl game.

"And that's what we're trying to do."



The Athens Messenger

Falling apart

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Nov. 14, 2012

The loss was the third in four games for Ohio (8-3, 4-3 Mid-American Conference), which has been in free-fall mode since racing out to a 7-0 start and a spot in the top 25 rankings.

"I don't really know how to put it into words," Ohio RB Beau Blankenship said. "This isn't the team that we are. We can play way better than this, we should be playing way better than this. We just got to fix it."

Ball State (8-3, 5-2 MAC) scored the game's final 21 points and racked up 588 total yards. The Cardinals played the entire second half without starting QB Keith Wenning, who hurt an ankle on a reception — via a trick play — in the first half.

Backup Kelly Page hit on 5 of 7 passes for 41 yards and two touchdowns, and rushed for a third score. BSU had two backs hit 100 yards as Jahwan Edwards (169 yards on 17 carries) and Horacio Banks (14-135) plowed through the Ohio defense.

Ohio played the entire second half without starting defensive tackles Neal Huynh and Carl Jones, who both suffered apparent ankle injuries on the same play in the first half.

"It's huge. That's our two inside guys, two great senior leaders on the d-line," said senior DE Corey Hasting, the lone starter on the DL remaining from the start of the season. "We could have done a lot of things better. We just couldn't tackle very well tonight."

Ohio trailed just 31-27 with 12:15 remaining after Matt Weller converted a 34-yard field goal. But the Bobcats had 30-yards in penalties on the ensuing kickoff, which helped BSU start the drive on the Ohio 23. On the next play, Banks broke several tackles on a 23-yard touchdown run to push it to 38-27 and the rout was on.

Backup Derrius Vick replaced starter Tyler Tettleton on the next Ohio series, a three-and-out, and Ball State responded with Page's 13-yard touchdown pass to Zane Fakes for a 45-27 lead.

Tettleton returned on the next series. Solich said his QB was banged up earlier, Tettleton didn't agree.

"I don't know, you're going to have to ask coach Solich about that. I don't know what happened," Tettleton said.

Tettleton rushed for 47 yards and hit on 22 of 30 passes for 236 yards. He was also sacked four times, including on the final play of the first half deep inside Ball State territory. Ohio tried to get off a field goal attempt after the sack — which was a similar situation to that at the end of Ohio's loss at Miami — but officials blew the play dead for the end of the first half before Weller could get the kick off.

Ohio trailed 21-17 at the time. After two separate reviews, the officiating crew ruled that Ohio would not get a chance to kick it.

Solich defended the decision to try one more play, again without a time out, saying he thought his team would need touchdowns not field goals to win.

Tettleton said he was aware of the situation, but there was nothing he could do.

"Just can't take a sack. It was one of those things where I took three (steps) and there was a guy right in my face. There really was nothing I could do," Tettleton said.

Blankenship piled up 161 rushing yards for Ohio and three touchdowns. He scored on a 58-yarder early in the third to put Ohio up 24-21, but Ball State scored

the next 10 points to grab the lead for good.

After Banks' TD run early in the fourth, it appeared the Bobcats wilted down the stretch.

"The second half was not good and things continued to mount on us there. As the game went on, we tackled and blocked worse," Solich said.

"When you do that, things are going to really cave in on you."

Ohio wraps up the regular season on Nov. 23 at Kent State.



The Athens Messenger

Bobcats trying to ramp back up for Flashes

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Nov. 19, 2012

The last time the Bobcats were on the football field, Ball State was running the ball up and down the field.

It's something junior middle linebacker Keith Moore would prefer not to think about.

"I don't even want to talk about last week," he said Monday. "That was disappointing."

Disappointing is a pretty good summation of Ohio's last month. The Bobcats (8-3, 4-3 Mid-American Conference) have lost three of their last four games, and appeared to hit bottom last Wednesday in a 52-27 loss to the Cardinals.

For a team that started the year 7-0, the setback was shocking. But the task facing Ohio and head coach Frank Solich now is to not let that define the team moving forward.

Ohio will be playing for redemption, among other things, Friday when it travels to No. 23 Kent State (10-1, 7-0 MAC) for an 11 a.m. kickoff on ESPNU. The Bobcats aren't guaranteed a postseason game yet, but could essentially lock up a bowl bid with an upset over the Golden Flashes.

The Bobcats could certainly use a lift.

"What we're after is to finish our regular season with a win, and that would, I think, make us feel fairly good about things," Solich said. "We've went through a stretch where we don't feel good about what we got done.

"But ending it with a win would be big for us."

Ohio gave the players a couple days off after the Ball State loss. It was needed after the Bobcats competed in four games in 19 days. It's hoped that the respite will put some spring back in the step of the beleaguered roster, which has been hamstrung with serious injuries all season.

"I think (the recent schedule) had an effect and that it showed in the second half (at Ball State)," Solich said. "We just didn't seem to have enough to keep going.

"We're hoping the rest will do us good and we'll have the energy to play four quarters," he added. "It's going to have to be that way because Kent is a very, very good football team."

Senior safety Gerald Moore said he believes the Bobcats have the mental makeup to bounce back strong.

"I don't think we have a team that lingers on wins or losses. You got to look forward to the next game you play," he said. "I think a lot of guys are looking forward to this next game and redeeming ourselves a little bit."

Top 25 foes

Friday's game will be the 16th time Ohio has faced a top 25 team. The Flashes were ranked No. 23 in the BCS Standings and AP poll this week, and clocked in at No. 25 in the Coaches Poll.

Ohio is 0-15 all-time against Top 25 opponents. Ohio's last match-up against a Top 25 team resulted in a 43-7 loss at No. 2 Ohio State on Sept. 18, 2010.

"That adds a little bit to the situation," Gerald Moore said.

For the first time since 2003, the MAC has two teams in the top 25 rankings at the

same time. Northern Illinois (10-1, 7-0 MAC) is No. 23 in the Coaches Poll, and No. 24 in the AP poll this week.

Kent State and NIU are already locked into place as the conference's division champions, and will meet in the MAC Championship game on Nov. 30 at Ford Field in Detroit.

All told, four MAC teams have reached the Top 25 this season; Ohio and Toledo also broke into the rankings earlier this season.

"We always feel good about MAC schools breaking into the top 25. I think that's just great for the conference, and this year there's been (four)," Solich said. "I don't know if that's been done in the MAC before but it's certainly not been done since I've been here."

Injury update

Solich played it close to the vest regarding Ohio's two most pressing injury issues for the Kent game. Starting defensive tackles Neal Huynh and Carl Jones both left the Ball State game with lower leg injuries.

"One of them will definitely be out, the other may have a shot. It will probably be a game-day kind of decision," Solich said.

So which is which?

"I'll tell you on game day."

Also impacting the depth chart on the defensive line is the fact that redshirt junior Kendrick Davis has been dismissed from the roster, Solich confirmed Monday. The coach said Davis, who has played in 17 games the last two seasons, was removed for an unspecified violation of team rules and/or policies.

Defensive end Tremayne Scott (foot), who has missed eight straight games, is out again this week.

Tight end Troy Hill, dinged up at Ball State, was a full participant in practice on Monday and should be able to play.



The Athens Messenger

Bobcats thumped 28-6 at Kent State

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Nov. 23, 2012

KENT, Ohio — It was the day after Thanksgiving but the Bobcats got a head start on Christmas.

Ohio gift-wrapped two early touchdowns for the opposition, and the Golden Flashes' defense took it from there as No. 23 Kent State stomped the Bobcats 28-6 Friday afternoon inside Dix Stadium.

Kent State returned a fumble, and then an interception, for two defensive touchdowns before the game was 10 minutes old, and cruised from there. The Flashes (11-1, 8-0 Mid-American Conference) became the first undefeated MAC East champion since 2003 and picked up a 10th consecutive win.

Kent State will play Northern Illinois (11-1, 8-0 MAC) for the MAC Championship next Friday at Ford Field in Detroit.

For Ohio it was more of the same during a season-ending funk. The Bobcats (8-4, 4-4 MAC) lost for the fourth time in their last five games. The preseason MAC favorite fell behind early, had three-fifths of the offensive line wiped out by injury, and saw quarterback Tyler Tettleton sacked eight times in what was another ugly trip to Kent.

"The early part of the game was disastrous for us," Ohio coach Frank Solich said. "The two turnovers that got points on the board for them...were tough. It was a poor start."

Ohio fell to 0-16 all-time against Top 25 opponents. The Bobcats haven't won at Kent State since 2008, and haven't scored a touchdown in its last 10+ quarters inside Dix Stadium. Ohio's last touchdown on the Flashes' home field came from Chris Garrett, with just under 13 minutes left in the second quarter back in 2008.

Ohio drove the ball inside the Kent State four times. Twice Ohio settled for Matt Weller field goals, and twice the Bobcats turned the ball over on downs.

"We were not able to put points on the board although we did have drives. But we were not able to finish those drives off," Solich said.

Ohio bottled up KSU dynamo Dri Archer — the junior running back had a pedestrian (for him) 111 yards rushing and receiving on 15 touches. Backfield partner Trayon Durham finished with 97 yards on 16 carries.

Flashes' QB Spencer Keith had 170 yards and a touchdown, with an interception, while hitting just 9 of 20 passes.

But it was the KSU defense, and Ohio's continued injury issues, which stole the day.

On the game's first series, LB Luke Wollet scooped up a fumble at midfield and rumbled 50 yards the other way for a defensive score to put KSU on top 7-0 with 13:02 left in the first quarter.

After three straight punts by the two teams, Spencer hooked up with Eric Adeyemi for a 44-yard gain down the sideline. Two plays later, Durham bulled into the end zone for a 15-yard score.

Ohio's fourth offensive series ended when Tettleton was picked off by C.J. Malauulu on the first play of the drive. Malauulu picked his way down the left sideline behind a caravan of blockers for the 33-yard interception return touchdown.

There was 5:49 still on the first quarter clock, but Ohio's chances at staging a comeback were essentially ended when three starters on the offensive line — right tackle Ryan McGrath, right guard Eric Herman and left guard Vince Carlotta — all

left the game with injury. McGrath broke his leg and was taken to Columbus for surgery. Carlotta suffered a concussion, and likely will not play again this season. Herman suffered damage in his elbow.

At the end of the game, Ohio was without 10 of its projected 22 starters. With McGrath, 14 Ohio players have had season-ending surgery. The number of front-line players — first teamers and key backups — lost for the season or significant stretches with injury for Ohio is now at 22.

"It's just gut-wrenching seeing my o-linemen get hurt like that," Ohio RB Beau Blankenship said. "We had some people step up and do great jobs today but those guys, I'm close to them and I love them. It's hard to see."

Ohio started the day without DT Neal Huynh, who was hurt last week at Ball State. Whether it's offense or defense, no aspect of the Bobcat squad has been spared from injury this season.

"Losing three o-linemen in one game, that hurts you," senior defensive lineman Corey Hasting said. "You saw today what happened."

What happened was Kent State pinned its ears back and flustered Tettleton throughout. The eight sacks were the most Ohio allowed since a 2010 loss to the Flashes.

Tettleton hit 21 of 37 throws for 232 yards and an interception. But he was taken down for sacks six times on third down. Ohio was held out of the end zone for the first time all season.

"(Tettleton) was under a fair amount of pressure today, and there were times when maybe he bailed out of the pocket when maybe he shouldn't have. Maybe he should have thrown the ball away a couple times," Solich said. "But I think we all have a share in what happened."

Blankenship picked up his eighth 100-yard game of the season with 145 yards on 29 carries. The junior became Ohio's single-season rushing record holder as well; Blankenship has 1,500 yards this year, and passed the old mark of 1,434 yards set by Calvin McRae in 2007.

The record was the last thing on his mind, however.

"Not right now. I just heard I got it. That's way secondary to winning and this loss really hurts," he said.

After the early barrage, Ohio tried to whittle its way back into it. The Bobcats pulled to within 21-3 at the end of the first quarter on Weller's 33-yard field goal, then made it 21-6 when Weller hit a 41-yarder 15 seconds before halftime.

But the Bobcats could get no closer.

Kent State put the game out of reach in the fourth as Keith hit Adeyemi with a 24-yard touchdown pass that made it 28-6 with 11:44 to go.

At 8-4, it appears Ohio is in good shape to make a bowl game. But after the last five weeks — between the injuries and losses — do they want to go to one?

"We all want to go to a bowl game. It's up to other people to have us go, but I feel we can play and we want to play. Hopefully we get the opportunity to," Blankenship said.

Solich said if the Bobcats get selected, they'll play.

"I'm not making a case. We're what we are. We got eight wins," he said. "We're a banged up football team, but we'll go with what the bowls see and how they feel and we'll go from there."



The Athens Messenger

Bobcats brought down by injury bug

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Dec. 1, 2012

Tonight, the pairings for 35 college football bowl games will be announced. They will come in bits and pieces — with the biggest (BCS) games first and then the smaller, less-expensive bowls following suite once they know who's available.

The Ohio Bobcats hope to be playing again this season. Despite a solid 8-4 record, Ohio is left waiting after an end-of-the-season swoon that saw the Bobcats drop four of their last five games.

It was not the way Ohio saw the season unfolding four months ago. But then again, the Bobcats never thought they would have to endure the physical turmoil that has engulfed the roster since the start of August.

The Bobcats were preseason favorites to win the Mid-American Conference, and started the season 7-0. But it came apart at the seams down the stretch.

Why? The answer is simple. Injuries, and a condensed late schedule, pillaged Ohio of talent, depth and confidence. During the critical month of the season — November — the Bobcats appeared to have nothing left in the tank.

Injuries are a part of football. Depth matters. And it's true all teams have to weather some ailments along the way.

But Ohio's potential dream season turned awry thanks to a nightmarish scramble on the depth chart that proved to be too much to overcome. Three of Ohio's four losses came in a 19-day span; the condensed schedule from mid-week football didn't help.

"You can only keep moving on," said senior safety Gerald Moore a month ago. "I mean, we haven't had our whole team this whole season. But you have to keep going, keep working and find a way."

Ohio eventually ran out of answers. Critics are right to point out that missing personnel didn't solely cause some of the losses. The late-game gaffe at Miami, the punting mishaps versus Bowling Green, and the two turnovers early at Kent are all huge, impactful moments.

But how would the rest of those games played out if Ohio had been in better physical condition? Would the Bobcats had been able to create more offense against Bowling Green if more players were available, and it wasn't playing for the third time in 12 days? Would the secondary have given up one less long passing touchdown at Miami if it weren't without three of its projected preseason starters?

The 2012 season will be remembered as a 'what-if?' year for the Bobcats.

"It's just unfortunate that we've had the kind of injuries that we've had this year," Ohio coach Frank Solich said after the loss at Kent State on Nov. 23. "Sometimes those years come along. This one was a bit much."

How bad was it? Only 10 of Ohio's 22 opening day starters were able to play in all 12 games this season. By halftime at Kent State, the Bobcats had 10 preseason projected starters out.

Since the beginning of fall camp in August, 14 Ohio players have had their seasons end with surgery. Of the 14, 11 were either starters or players who were regular (or expected) to be contributors.

The number of Bobcats who missed two or more games this year, or had surgery, is at 25. If you took a count of the number of players who missed or sat out a single game, the tally is above 30.

And even that estimate doesn't take into account some players. Defensive tackle Carl Jones, for instance, played in all 12 games this season, but left three different games with injury. OLB Jelani Woseley played in all 12 games, but battled through a knee injury that limited practice time and game time.

QB Tyler Tettleton missed just one game this season, but his abdomen injury clearly affected his play a game or two longer after his return to the lineup. Leading receiver Donte Foster missed just one complete game, but thumb and back injuries certainly impacted his ability at times to make plays and finish games.

Solich was left perplexed at times this year to try to explain some rotten luck in terms of the injury count. He believes the program's training staff, and strength and conditioning staff aren't to blame.

In short, sometimes you're just unlucky.

"We've looked at a lot of things," Solich explained. "The injuries have not occurred in one place, or just been on our field or opposing teams' fields or the practice field. A few have come in practice, but most have come in games.

"We had a lot of broken bones actually as far as those injuries are concerned. I don't know if, in this game, there is much you can do about that," he added.

Listed below are some of the key personnel losses for Ohio this season. They are broken down into groupings, and it should be kept in mind that this is not a comprehensive list. Many walk-ons, freshmen redshirt players and others that didn't directly affect the game day depth chart are not listed here.

For instance, only 11 players are listed in the surgery list. Solich has said 13 players, 14 with RT Ryan McGrath at Kent State, have had procedures done in season. I listed only the players I had confirmed directly that had a procedure during the season.

In-season surgery

CB Travis Carrie (shoulder)
WR Sebastian Smith (leg)
CB Jamil Shaw (shoulder)
WR Mario Dovell (leg)
OL Matt Prichard (knee)
OL Sam Johnson (ankle)
FS Xavier Hughes (shoulder)
TE Jordan Thompson (knee)
WR Landon Smith (leg)
RB Ryan Boykin (knee)
OT Ryan McGrath (leg)

Projected starters out

CB Travis Carrie
CB Jamil Shaw
FS Xavier Hughes
DE Tremayne Scott (has missed nine straight games)
DT Neal Huynh
TE Jordan Thompson
WR Mario Dovell
OL Ryan McGrath
OL Vince Carlotta (sat out two games, concussion at Kent State)
OL Eric Herman (may return for bowl game)

Additional players who have missed more than 1 game

DE Nic Barber (2 games missed)
FS Gerald Moore (2)
DT Brandon Purdum (4)
OL Mike McQueen (3)
TE Derek Roback (4)
WR Tyler Futrell (2)
LB Joe Stefanski (10, left team)
DT Kenrick Davis (2, dismissed from team)
OL Mike Lucas (2-game suspension)



The Athens Messenger

Ohio lands bowl bid

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Dec. 3, 2012

The Bobcats' 2012 season isn't over yet.

The Ohio University football team accepted a bid to play in the 2012 AdvoCare V100 Independence Bowl on Sunday night. It will be the fourth-straight bowl game appearance for Ohio (8-4, 4-4 Mid-American Conference) and the fifth in the last seven seasons.

Ohio will face Louisiana-Monroe (8-4) in the Independence Bowl, held in Shreveport, La., on Friday, Dec. 28 at 2 p.m. The game will be broadcast live by ESPN.

Ohio coach Frank Solich said Sunday, through a released statement, that his team was thrilled to participate. Ohio has lost four of its last five games this season, and there was some speculation that the Bobcats may be on the outside when it came to selection Sunday.

"For over 25 years this has been one of the premier bowl games in the country and I couldn't be happier for our team," Solich said. "Louisiana-Monroe has had a very good season and we're certain that this game will be a great matchup."

Ohio has never appeared in the Independence Bowl. The Bobcats are 1-5 all-time in bowl games, and claimed the program's first bowl win last December with a 24-23 win over Utah State in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl.

The bowl game will be the first in program history for UL-Monroe, which accepted its invite to the game on Saturday. The Warhawks will be playing less than two hours from their home campus. It's a fitting end to the season for UL-Monroe, which posted a winning season for the first time in 19 years as a FBS program.

The Independence Bowl is normally contracted to fill its games with representatives from the SEC and ACC conferences. But with a lack of available teams from those two leagues, bowl organizers cut deals with the MAC and the Sun Belt Conference. The estimated per team payout from the bowl is expected to be \$1.15 million, which would make it the most lucrative bowl Ohio has ever played in. It is unknown at this time whether the payout will remain the same or if the figure was specific to representatives from the SEC and ACC.

It will be the second time in three seasons Ohio has finished the year in Louisiana. Ohio also played in the 2010 New Orleans Bowl against another Sun Belt foe in Troy.

"I've been to this bowl several times and it will be a great experience for our student-athletes and fans," said Ohio Director of Athletics Jim Schaus. "With this being our fourth-consecutive bowl game, this shows that our football program is continuing to build toward a successful future."

Ohio started the season 7-0, and crested at No. 23 in the country in the national polls and Bowl Championship Series standings. But injuries dogged the team all season, and the Bobcats fell off the pace down the stretch when they lost four of their final five games.

The Warhawks, coached by Todd Berry, also started their season with a flourish as they upended then No. 8 Arkansas in the season opener. UL-Monroe finished 6-2 and tied for second in the Sun Belt.

"These are two dynamic football teams that will be a great addition to the long list of great teams that have played in the Independence Bowl," Independence Bowl Chairman Jack Andres said.

Selection Sunday was another banner day for the MAC, in what has become the conference's best football season to date. For the first time ever, a MAC team was selected to take part in one of the five BCS Bowl games as Northern Illinois will face Florida State in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 1, 2013.

All seven bowl-eligible MAC teams were given bowl invitations on Sunday. The seven bowl games is a new record for the conference, which has had five bowl teams on four different occasions. The MAC was 4-1 in five bowl games a year ago, and is 7-3 in its last 10 bowl games overall.

Besides Ohio and Northern Illinois, Kent State (GoDaddy.com Bowl), Toledo (Famous Idaho Potato Bowl), Ball State (Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl, Bowling Green (Military Bowl) and Central Michigan (Little Caesar's Pizza Bowl) accepted bowl invitations.

"The commitment of the student-athletes to excel has earned them this opportunity," said Dr. Jon Steinbrecher, Commissioner of the Mid-American Conference. "I am very excited for our bowl lineup and I look forward to watching the MAC teams compete this bowl season."

The 2012 season ended on a strong note for the MAC as both Northern Illinois (No. 15) and Kent State (No. 25) ended the year ranked in the BCS Standings. Four different MAC teams have been ranked nationally by the BCS, AP, or USA Today Coaches polls this season — NIU, Kent State, Toledo and Ohio.

The MAC also set a record with 16 non-conference wins against FBS foes, including eight wins against teams from BCS automatic qualifying conferences — Penn State, Iowa, Indiana from the Big Ten; Cincinnati, Rutgers, South Florida and UConn from the Big East, and Kansas from the Big XII.



The Athens Messenger

Independence Bowl offers Bobcats chance at good finish

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Dec. 3, 2012

Ohio's 2012 football season didn't play out the way the Bobcats hoped.

But with an invitation to play in the 2012 Independence Bowl, Ohio has a unique opportunity to end the campaign on a high note.

Simply put, Ohio has never played in a bowl game with the history or prestige, or potential payout, of the Independence Bowl. The Bobcats (8-4) will face UL-Monroe (8-4) in the bowl on Friday, Dec. 28 at 2 p.m. in Shreveport, La.

The bowl trip will be the fifth in seven seasons for Ohio, and gives the Bobcats a bowl game for a fourth straight year. It's a needed salve after the Bobcats lost four of their last five games under an season-long avalanche of injuries.

"We definitely deserve it. Over the course of the season we've had a lot of injuries," said Ohio senior safety Gerald Moore. "It hurts.

"But we definitely still earned the right...it's something that we've worked for."

The Independence Bowl will be Ohio's seventh bowl game in program history, and easily the most recognizable of Ohio's postseason destinations in the modern era. The bowl originated in 1976, and has a history of featuring some of the most notable programs in the country.

Since 2000 alone, teams like Alabama, South Carolina, Georgia, Texas A&M, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Iowa State, Missouri and North Carolina have played in the game.

"I remember growing up as a kid watching Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, play (in the bowl)," Ohio quarterback Tyler Tettleton said. "I'm just excited to be playing this type of bowl game."

It's something Tettleton couldn't say in the past three years when Ohio played in the Little Caesar's Pizza, New Orleans, and Famous Idaho Potato Bowls.

Ohio coach Frank Solich is familiar with the bowl and the venue as well. In 2002, Solich led Nebraska against Ole Miss in the Independence Bowl. Ole Miss, behind Eli Manning, won 27-23.

"It's a storied bowl with a lot of great history," Solich said. "If you look back at the teams that have played in that bowl, you'll see some outstanding programs have through there and played in many of their games."

Ohio will be just the third Mid-American Conference team to play in the Independence Bowl. Miami lost 17-13 to Iowa State in 2004, and Northern Illinois dropped a 17-10 decision to La. Tech in 2008.

The game also has the potential to be least painful for Ohio financially. Ohio Director of Athletics Jim Schaus said Ohio would "not be on the hook" for any number of tickets and that he was "confident we'll be able to put our expenses inside the allocation that we have from the conference."

The payout for the Independence Bowl is listed at \$1.15 million per team, but that figure is what is agreed to for the team's contracted conference partners — in this case the SEC and ACC. As a 'free agent' fill in for the bowl slot — as is the case with UL-Monroe — Schaus said he wasn't sure Monday what Ohio's payout may be but was certain it would be lower than the payout contracted to the SEC and ACC.

"When the SEC plays the (ACC), those payouts go to those leagues and they have to take tickets out of it. There's a lot of other infrastructure involved in it," Schaus said. "But those teams are not in it, and we don't get the same amount of money."

The MAC contracts with the Independence Bowl to fill one of its opening. The MAC then distributes that revenue, part of a pool collected from all the conference's bowl game contracts, to its member institutions to cover bowl expenses, Schaus said.

"The conference gives us money to travel. I'm going to guess that \$400,000 is a pretty good estimate in this case," Schaus said. "In addition to that, we get tickets. Those tickets are things we can sell to our fans, we could give those to our students, we can use those tickets as want. We're not really on the hook for those tickets."

Ohio is just one of seven MAC teams to get bowl invites this season, a new conference record. The MAC also made history when Northern Illinois (12-1) received an automatic berth in the BCS and garnered a spot in the Orange Bowl.

Like others, the Bobcats were surprised at the criticism levied against NIU on Sunday — most venomously from ESPN's cadre of talking heads.

"It was really shocking to see that," Tettleton said. "They had a heck of a season and are well-deserving."

Solich wasn't shy in his support of the Huskies. He had NIU at No. 14 in his last coaches' poll ballot.

"I think they have the right combination of things to be an outstanding bowl football team. I'm very excited for (NIU), as our conference is," Solich said.

"Let's just see how it plays out. I say 'Go Huskies.'"

MAC commissioner Jon Steinbrecher said during a media conference call Sunday night that the conference anticipates a minimum of \$12 million to come back to the non-automatic qualifying pool as a result of NIU's appearance in a BCS bowl. That pool is shared by every league that does not have an automatic BCS berth (MAC, Sun Belt, Conference-USA, ect.).

Steinbrecher said the MAC can expect to see two-thirds of that amount, or roughly \$8. He said conference officials are working through a formula on how to manage the influx. Conference university presidents will meet later this week to finalize a distribution plan.

Ohio, like every other MAC school, will receive a cut.

"Every one of our schools will benefit as a result of this," Steinbrecher said.

Two starters out

Solich confirmed Monday that two starters on the offensive line will miss the bowl game.

Right tackle Ryan McGrath suffered a broken leg in the regular-season finale at Kent State. Left guard Vince Carlotta suffered a concussion. Neither will be available for the bowl game, Solich said.

A third starter up front, right guard Eric Herman, is questionable with an elbow injury.

Ohio University football: Bobcats are seeking to heal bodies, spirits

Mark Znidar

Columbus Dispatch - Dec. 4, 2012

It might feel more like training camp than Christmas break when Ohio University safety Gerald Moore begins preparation for the Independence Bowl this week.

Moore missed games against Miami University and Eastern Michigan because of a high ankle sprain, and he hasn't been at full speed since before the season started. He is one of 25 Bobcats players who missed two games or more because of injuries.

The bowl game against Louisiana-Monroe on Dec. 28 in Shreveport, La., will give Moore one last chance to show what he can do when healthy.

"The ankle should be pretty good by the time the game rolls around," Moore said. "I've been getting treatment to get my flexibility back, and resting. I haven't been doing a lot of running. I'm excited about playing in this game."

Defensive lineman Carl Banks also could be returning to the lineup, but Ohio (8-4) won't be anywhere close to 100 percent for the bowl game. Fourteen players — 11 starters — have been lost to season-ending injuries.

Moore, a senior, should have sat out the final five games to heal, but he returned for a game against Bowling Green on Nov. 7.

"It wasn't a normal sprain, and the diagnosis was I'd be out for six weeks," he said. "I came back after two weeks because I wanted to play. I'm a co-captain and I saw two other co-captains go down with season-ending injuries. I just decided to deal with it. There were limitations. I couldn't push off on the ankle and I couldn't make the sharp cuts. I couldn't run after people."

Injuries and a schedule that had Ohio playing three games in 12 days were the biggest factors in the team going from 7-0 and ranked 23rd in the Associated Press poll to losing four of its final five games.

Quarterback Tyler Tettleton said the players know a victory in a bowl game can be redemption.

In 2011, the Bobcats blew a 20-0 halftime lead in losing 23-20 to Northern Illinois in the Mid-American Conference championship game. They came back to defeat Utah State 24-23 in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl.

The victory in the bowl jump-started Ohio for spring and preseason practices. The result was a stunning 24-14 victory over Penn State in the season opener.

"This is another opportunity to end the season on good note," Tettleton said. "Just being able to get back on the practice field with the guys is a great thing. Losing four of five games was tough. I think our minds have to be on erasing all that stuff from our minds. We want to get the

program back on track."

The strain of the losing streak showed on Tettleton's face during interviews.

"I'm doing well," he said. "This game is another chance for us to show what we can do. It's another chance to guide the team. I think everyone is excited about this game."

Louisiana-Monroe (8-4) will be difficult to defeat. The Warhawks upset Arkansas 34-31 in overtime in their opener and finished in a three-way tie for second place behind Arkansas State in the Sun Belt Conference.

The team is led by junior quarterback Kolton Browning and senior receiver Brent Leonard. Browning has passed for 2,830 yards and 27 touchdowns and is completing 64.8 percent of his passes. Leonard has caught 97 passes for 1,042 yards and 10 touchdowns.

The Warhawks have won seven of their past nine games.



The Athens Messenger

ULM QB has familiar feel for Bobcats

Jason Arkley

Athens Messenger - Dec. 3, 2012

As the Ohio Bobcats begin, in earnest, to prepare for the 2012 Independence Bowl, a large component of their defensive game plan will center on figuring out a way to slow down Louisiana-Monroe quarterback Kolton Browning.

Ohio won't have to go far to find a reasonable facsimile of the Warhawks' signal-caller. The Bobcats have one in their own locker room.

Nothing more than a cursory glance is needed to see the similarities between Browning and Ohio junior QB Tyler Tettleton. Whether it's body type, skillset, or recruiting background, the two quarterbacks will provide mirror-like reflections of one another in an intriguing Independence Bowl match-up.

"Yeah, a lot of similarities there," said Ohio coach Frank Solich. "Both guys can throw it well, and run it well."

And both have produced at a high level. In 25 games as the Bobcat starter, Tettleton has amassed 6,787 yards of total offense (passing and rushing) and accounted for 59 touchdowns (passing and rushing).

Browning, who differs in that he's left-hander, is a three-year starter for ULM. In 35 starts, he's tallied a whopping 9,124 yards of total offense and 74 touchdowns.

Neither is an old-school drop-back passer. Browning has led the Warhawks in rushing attempts in three straight seasons, and has 1,269 career rushing yards with 16 rushing touchdowns. Tettleton has been nearly as active with his legs, with 868 rushing yards and 14 rushing touchdowns in the past two seasons.

That ability to make plays on the run, or with their arms (both have career completion percentages above 60 percent), have elevated the duo to near the top of their respective conferences.

"Both are great runners. And both are great passers," Ohio MLB Keith Moore said. "We see it with Tyler every day. (Browning) is going to be a great challenge."

Browning was the Sun Belt Conference Offensive Player of the Year in 2012 with his best collegiate season to date. He completed 64.8 percent of his throws, with 27 touchdowns and seven interceptions, for 2,830 yards and a rating of 145.2.

Tettleton's 2012 was fine by any measurement (62 percent, 2,513 yards, 16 touchdowns and 3 interceptions), but his 2011 breakout season was even better than Browning's showing this fall.

In '11, Tettleton finished with a passer rating of 148.6 after hitting 64.3 percent of his throws for 3,302 yards and 28 touchdowns with just 10 interceptions.

"The thing about both guys is how athletic they are. They can really run," said Ohio defensive coordinator Jimmy Burrow. "And (ULM) will utilize (Browning) a lot in the run game."

"He'll get in empty and if they think you're flat-out blitzing, they'll check to a quarterback run. He'll run bootlegs with the option to run or pass," he added. "It's a lot to prepare for."

Browning (6-foot-1, 194 pounds) and Tettleton (6-0, 200 pounds) also share a similar trajectory this season. Both were instrumental in early season eye-opening wins; Browning guided ULM in an upset over then No. 8 Arkansas while Tettleton was clutch down the stretch in a road win at Penn State in week one.

Both got banged up during the season. Tettleton missed one game, and seemed less than 100 percent in at least two other games. Browning, likewise, only played in 11 games this season because of injury.

And while both are starting to get recognized nationally for their ability — CBS Sports named the Independence Bowl the ninth-best bowl match up because of the quarterback battle — neither was a hot recruit out of high school.

Tettleton had limited offers coming out of Norman North (Okla.) High School, and was listed as a two-start recruit. He played as a 'Wildcat' quarterback at Ohio as a true freshmen in 2009, but then redshirted in 2010.

Browning, from Mabank, Texas (60 miles east of Dallas) was also a slightly overlooked two-star recruit out of high school. He redshirted in 2009, then was thrown in the fire as the starter in coach Todd Berry's no-huddle offense.

Both have shown they can play with toughness and intelligence, and are the driving forces behind their teams' respective offenses.

Everything the Bobcats have seen on film from Browning reminds them of their own team captain — and in Corey Hasting's case another famous former college quarterback.

"He's fast, he's tough. He'll run you over if you're in his way. He's got a great arm, he's accurate. I think he's just a left-handed Tyler," said Ohio's senior defensive lineman.

"And he wears the (no.) 15, so he's kind of like Tim Tebow at the same time."



The MAC's rise to prominence

Ivan Maisel

ESPN.com - Dec. 14, 2012

With impatience at epidemic levels these days, you can make the case that all coaching careers should be measured in dog years. But that's especially true in the Mid-American Conference, where bad coaches don't last and good coaches don't stay.

Lately, there have been more good coaches than ever. A league that is home to the Cradle of Coaches, Miami (Ohio), needs a lot bigger cradle. And a better nickname, because "Nursery of Coaches" just doesn't cut it.

But it's true. There are 13 head coaches among the AQ conferences who list a MAC school on their head coaching résumés. The list spans from Nick Saban of Alabama, who spent one season at Toledo in 1991, to Darrell Hazell, who left Kent State (11-2) last week for Purdue.

No other non-AQ conference has sent more than six head coaches to the AQ schools. That's how many former MAC head coaches have been hired in the last year. And that's no coincidence. The league is playing football as well as it has in recent memory.

MAC schools won 16 nonconference games this season, a league record. Four teams reached the Top 25 over the course of the season. And, of course, No. 15 Northern Illinois (12-1) became the first team to qualify for a BCS bowl. The Huskies will play Florida State in the Discover Orange Bowl, although they will be without head coach Dave Doeren. He hightailed it to North Carolina State.

Ohio head coach Frank Solich is the dean of the league. He just finished his eighth season with the Bobcats, who reached No. 24 in the BCS this season. A 7-0 start dissipated into an 8-4 finish after season-ending injuries to 14 players.

"When I first came into the league, it had good coaches," Solich said. "It was able to attract quarterbacks. It was able to attract wide receivers. The style of offense being played gave you a chance."

Ben Roethlisberger played at Miami. Dan LeFevour threw for nearly 13,000 yards at Central Michigan. The league still has quarterbacks. Jordan Lynch of Northern Illinois (4,733 yards) outgained Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Manziel of Texas A&M and everyone else.

"Players want to be part of exciting football," Solich said. "Some of the scores, as you well know, are 48-46."

The easiest way to compete against superior talent is to spread the field and make it harder to use that talent. When it comes to playing better teams, said Bill Cubit, fired last month after eight seasons at Western Michigan, "There's no way you're going to be able to run the ball against these guys. So you had to come up with a plan just to compete with those teams. A lot of people in this league, it was either the spread or just throwing the ball."

Offense was good. Offense still is good. But something has changed in the MAC over the last three seasons. It could be as simple as hiring the right young coaches. Hazell and Doeren came from top jobs on Big Ten staffs, stayed for two seasons and continued climbing the ladder. But there's more to it. They came to the MAC, and they got noticed.

A year after Dr. Jon A. Steinbrecher took over as MAC commissioner in March 2009, he convened a committee to raise the league's competitiveness and its profile. One of the biggest changes they made is in scheduling.

He urged them to make more home-and-home deals and play fewer paycheck games. Western Michigan played 18 AQ schools over the last six seasons. Northern Illinois played 12. If his teams played AQ opponents, Steinbrecher urged his schools to read the standings first -- less Wisconsin, more Kansas.

"If you're 8-4 in this league a couple of years back, you had a heck of a year," Cubit said. "Everybody was playing those BCS teams. Western is still doing it, but some of these teams are getting smarter and not doing it as much, giving themselves a chance."

Steinbrecher urged his members to move their nonconference games to the first five weeks of the season. That made conference games available for ESPN in mid-week during November.

"It provides just a wonderful window into our universe, quite frankly, for football fans across the country," Steinbrecher said. "Our coaches speak very consistently to the visibility it affords their programs. The fact that over the past two or three years, if you watched our league race play out, it has played out on national TV."

And it's made for just outstanding theater."

Solich said you can't overestimate the effect it's had among recruits, both in Ohio, the breadbasket of MAC recruiting, and across the nation. Solich began rattling off the home states of his players, from California to Oklahoma to New York to Florida. He said TV helps in Ohio, too.

"Whether you're playing once on it or you're on it five times, people know the MAC's on TV and you're able to go around the country and recruit," Solich said. "It even worked better for us in the state of Ohio. We had a tough time, when I first got here, getting recruits to come down and visit us. They had to pass so many MAC schools. Now that's not the case. We're winning. We're on TV. Our facilities are getting better."

Ohio is building a \$15 million indoor practice facility. Soon every MAC school will have one. That's as deep into the arms race as the MAC is likely to get. Coaches like Solich and Cubit, who come to the MAC and stay, will be the exception, for the most obvious reason of all.

"I would not anticipate a million-dollar salary in this league anytime soon," Steinbrecher said.

But now, when the good coaches come, they find more hospitable schedules, more television exposure, more of the tools that it takes to succeed in college football in this day and age.

"The key to all of it [is] to make sure that this year is not the exception," Steinbrecher said. "It's going to be challenging. But what we need to make sure is that, and really strive for, that getting a team into a BCS game -- or, in two years, into an access game -- is not a once-in-a-decade or once-in-a-generation-type thing. It's great that we did it this year, but in three weeks we're going to put this year to bed and then it's time to get regrouped and do it again. And maybe see if we can do better. Easy to talk about; not so easy to do."